



8

STORY AND ART BY
NATSUKI KIZU

III
Z

given

VOLUME 8

NATSUKI KIZU

G
—
Z



HIRAGI KASHIMA

(BASS & VOCALS)

Childhood friend of Mafuyu and Yuki's. Ritsuka's natural enemy.



HARUKI NAKAYAMA

(BASSIST)

Graduate student at the same university as Akihiko. The leader of the band, as well as its manager and peacemaker. After a lot of drama, he and Akihiko are now finally together.



MAFUYU SATO

(GUITAR & VOCALS)

High school classmate of Uenoyama's. Has an impressive singing voice. Attached to Uenoyama ever since he fixed Mafuyu's guitar, a keepsake from Mafuyu's former boyfriend who passed away.



SHIZUSUMI YAGI

(DRUMMER)

Childhood friend of Hiragi, Mafuyu, and Yuki's. Protects and harbors feelings for Hiragi.



AKIHIKO KAJI

(DRUMMER)

University student. His focus as a music major is the violin, but he's also good at playing guitar and bass. Ritsuka's aspirational model for getting ripped through manual labor.



RITSUKA UENOYAMA

(LEAD GUITAR)

Guitarist with skills far beyond those of the average high school student. Caring and compassionate. In a new relationship with Mafuyu. The consummate little brother to his big sister, Yayoi, who totally has him trained.

When Ritsuka Uenoyama hears Mafuyu Sato sing for the first time, he's blown away by the other boy's raw talent and immediately asks Mafuyu to join his band. Uenoyama's bandmates Akihiko Kaji and Haruki Nakayama agree, and the three of them set a goal of coming up with a new song to perform at an upcoming concert. It falls to Mafuyu to write the lyrics, a task the quiet student finds impossible. Mafuyu lost his first love to suicide, a tragedy for which he blames himself, at least in part, and the trauma has left him reluctant to put his feelings into words.

However, during the concert, Mafuyu's pent-up emotions burst out of him and pour into the song. His spontaneous, powerful performance turns the show into an overwhelming success. Shocked into awareness, Uenoyama realizes he has feelings for Mafuyu and kisses him backstage. Before long, the two of them become a couple.

The band, now going by the name Given, enters a competition to take part in an upcoming music festival. Meanwhile, Haruki continues to nurse his secret crush on Akihiko, who's still entangled with his roommate and ex-boyfriend, professional violinist Ugetsu Murata. Driven into a corner by that dead-end relationship, Akihiko shows up at Haruki's place out of desperation. Haruki can't just stand by while Akihiko is suffering, but his heart breaks when even his offer to help is rejected.

Akihiko slowly regains his passion for music—and for life—through playing with Given. When Ugetsu comes to see the band's live performance in the music-festival competition, Akihiko finally ends things between them for good. He devotes himself to the violin again, which he had been neglecting for a long time, and commits to making Given a success. As winter passes and spring comes around, Akihiko participates in a violin competition and finally confesses his true feelings to Haruki. The two become boyfriends.

In the festival competition, Given loses to the band fronted by Hiragi Kashima, Mafuyu's childhood friend. Hiragi convinces Uenoyama to perform backup with his band, and then asks him to complete a song that Mafuyu's ex had been working on. Despite some misgivings, Uenoyama takes on the task.

Around the same time, Given is invited to make their professional debut. Although Uenoyama has achieved a sense of fulfillment from playing in Hiragi's band, syh, he still wants Given to succeed and asks Mafuyu to go pro with him, but Mafuyu still has reservations. As Uenoyama becomes busier with preparations for syh's concert, he crosses paths with Mafuyu less and less.

Meanwhile, Hiragi and Shizusumi overcome their mutual misunderstandings and get together, which has a positive effect on the band's sound.

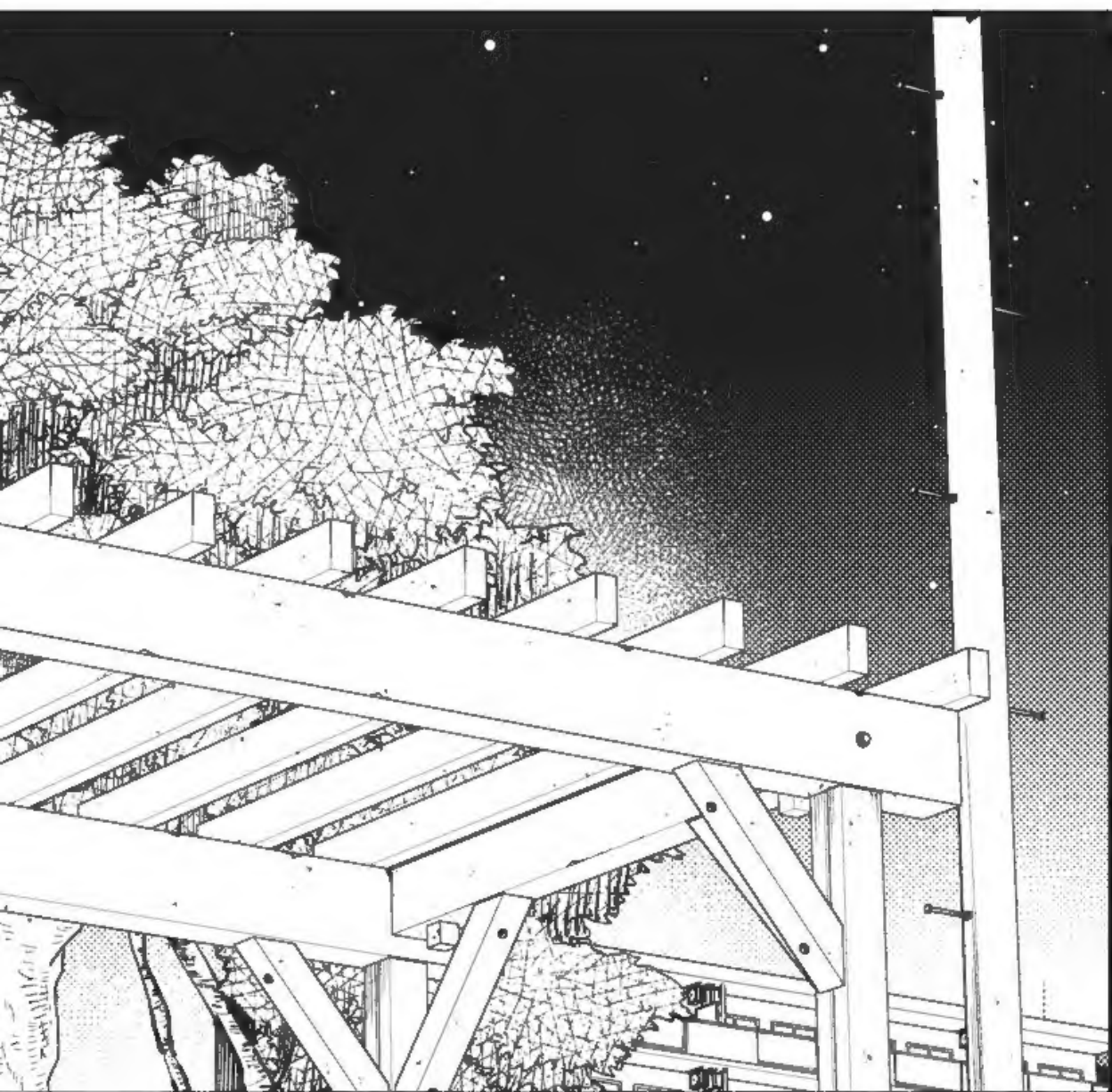
Mafuyu, who has yet to make a decision, can't remember when he last sang or how he was even able to do so.

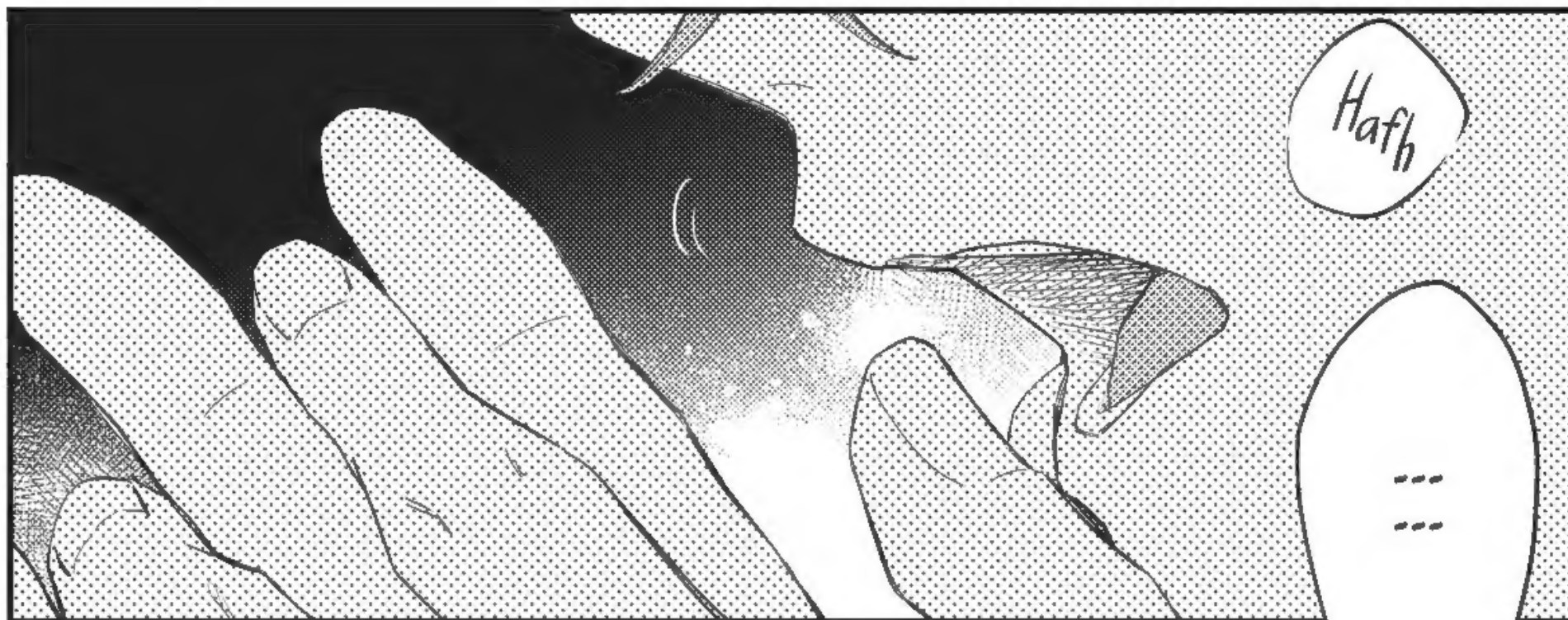




given

Hiragi Mix 13

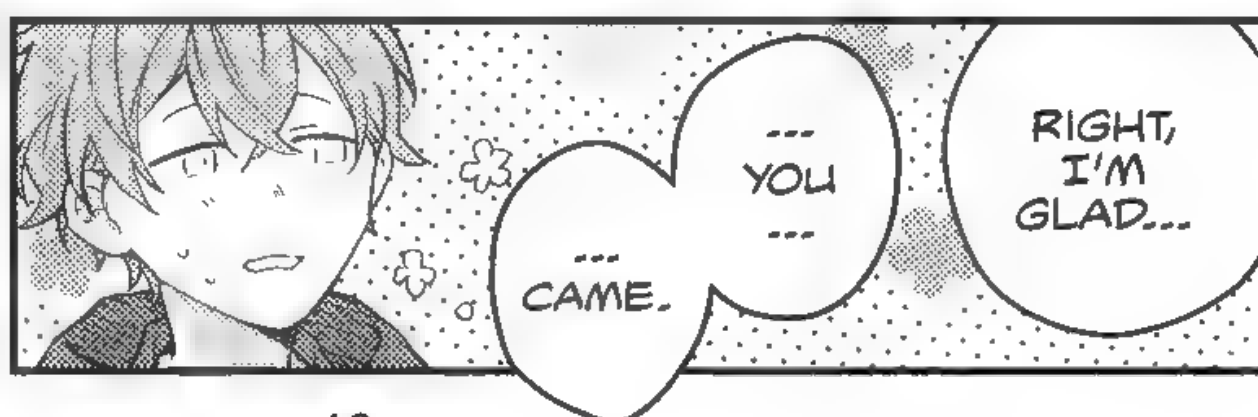
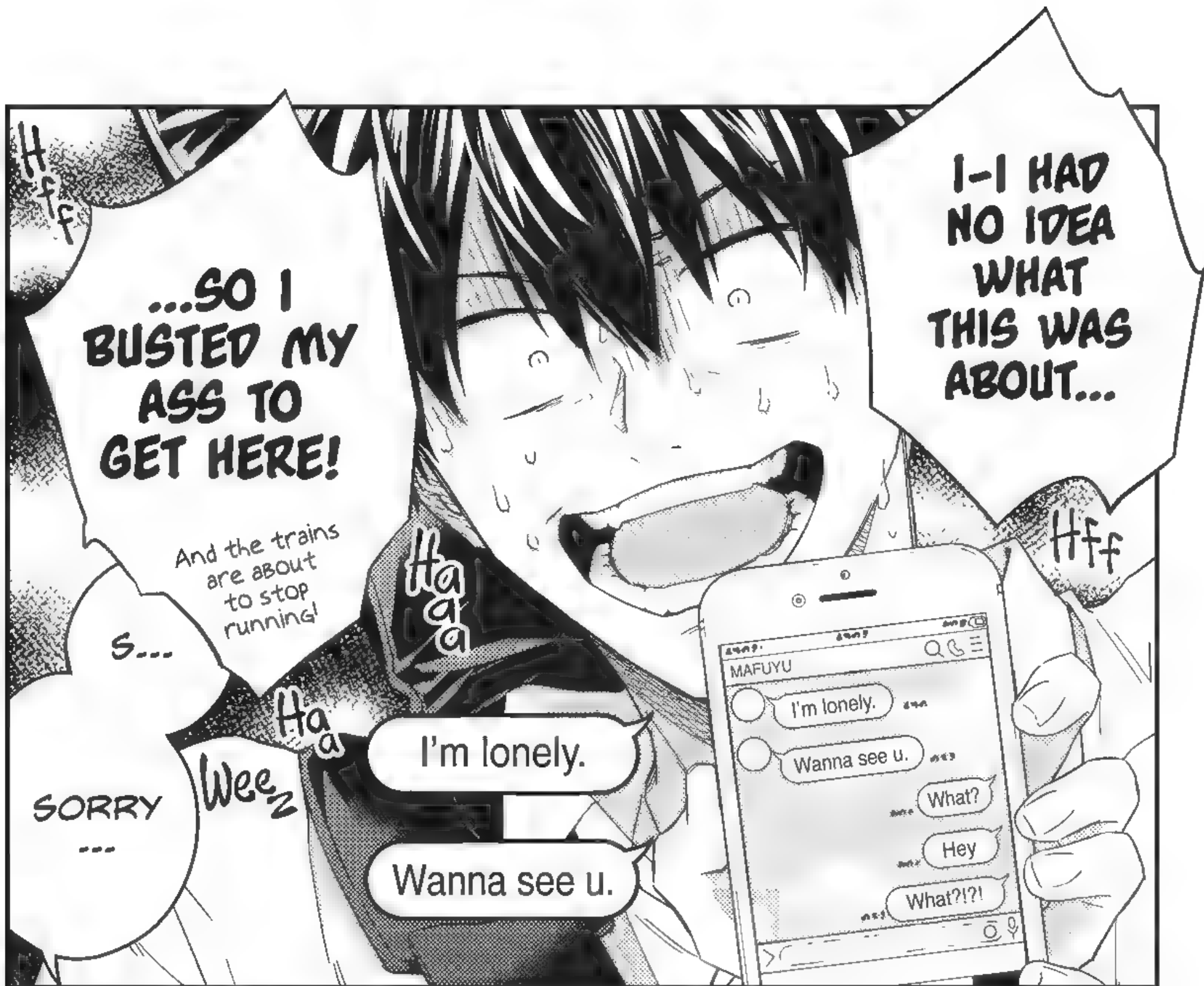






WHAT IS
WITH YOU?
WHY'D YOU
SEND SUCH A
DISTURBING
TEXT?!











SORRY.

I STILL
DON'T
KNOW HOW
TO PUT IT
INTO WORDS
YET.



EVEN IF
WE CAN'T
GET A HOLD
OF KAJI OR
ANYONE ELSE,
THE TWO OF
US CAN STILL
HANG OUT.

RIGHT...
HOW ABOUT
I START
GOING TO
THE STUDIO
MORE AFTER
SCHOOL.

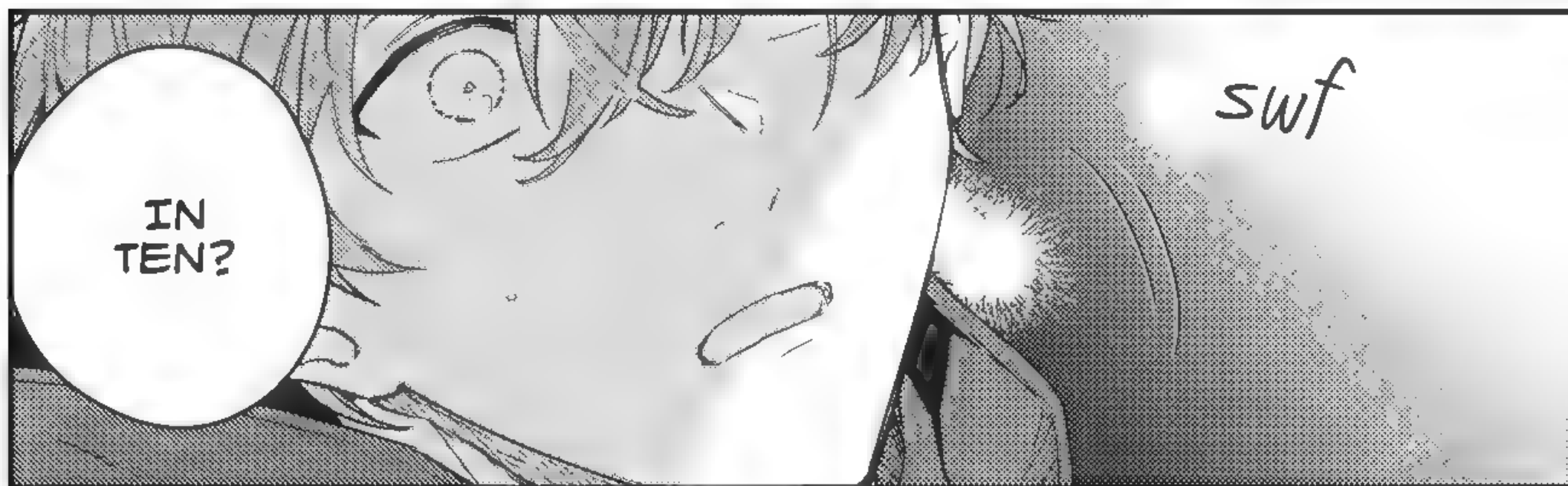
b-
bmp



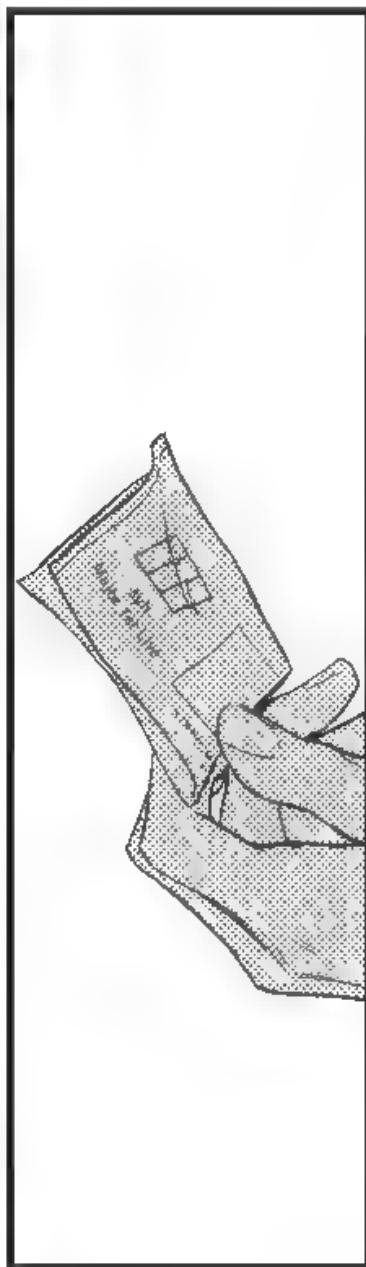
THANKS
FOR
RUSHING
OVER
HERE.

SIGH...

WELL,
I HAVEN'T
BEEN
AROUND
LATELY.









WHAT'S...
WRONG
WITH YOU,
REALLY?

SOME-
THING'S
OFF.



HLIH?



HEY...

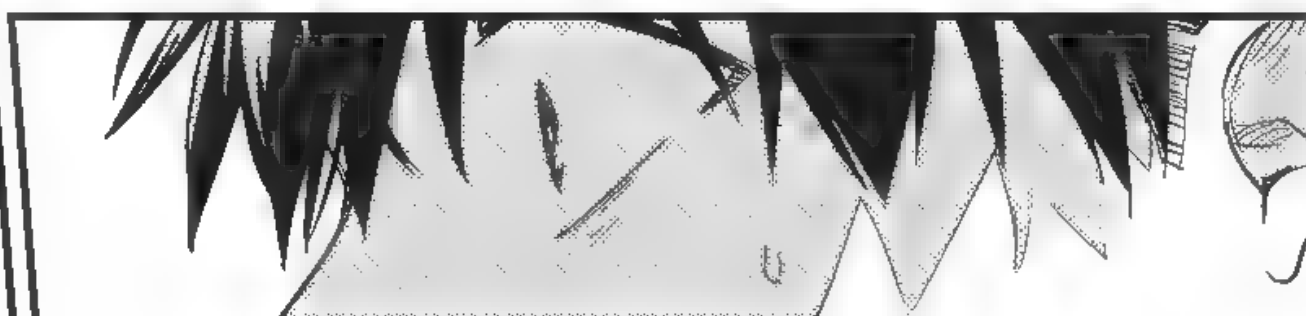
HAS
MAFLYU
EVER BEEN
THIS
PASSIVE
ABOUT
MUSIC?



NOT
RIGHT
NOW.

AND
JUST
NOW
HE
WAS...

IT'S
ALMOST
LIKE
HE'S...





SEE
YA.

SHIT.

ARE
YOU
OKAY
?!

HEY,
WAIT.

kree

Sway

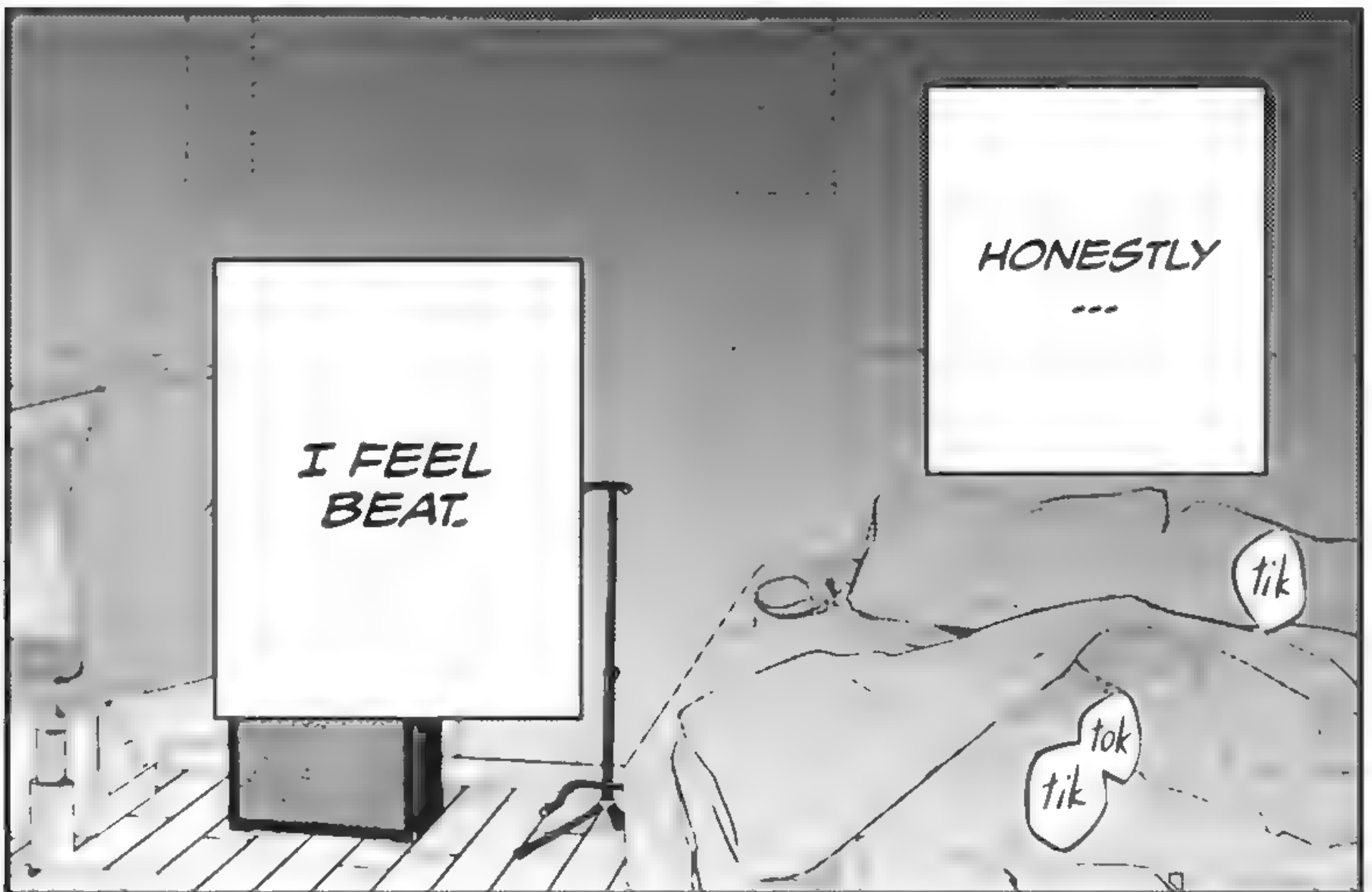
THE BATH
IS WARM,
SO MAKE
SURE TO
DRAIN
THE TUB
ONCE
YOU'RE
DONE.

...

WHERE
WERE
YOU
AT THIS
TIME OF
NIGHT?

YIKES.

I'M
HOME.

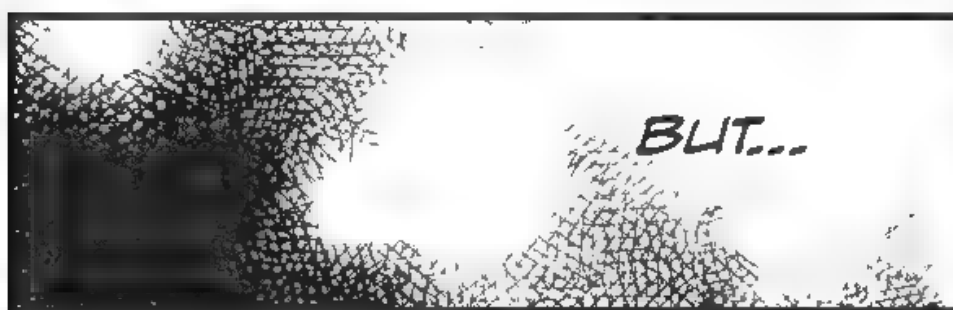




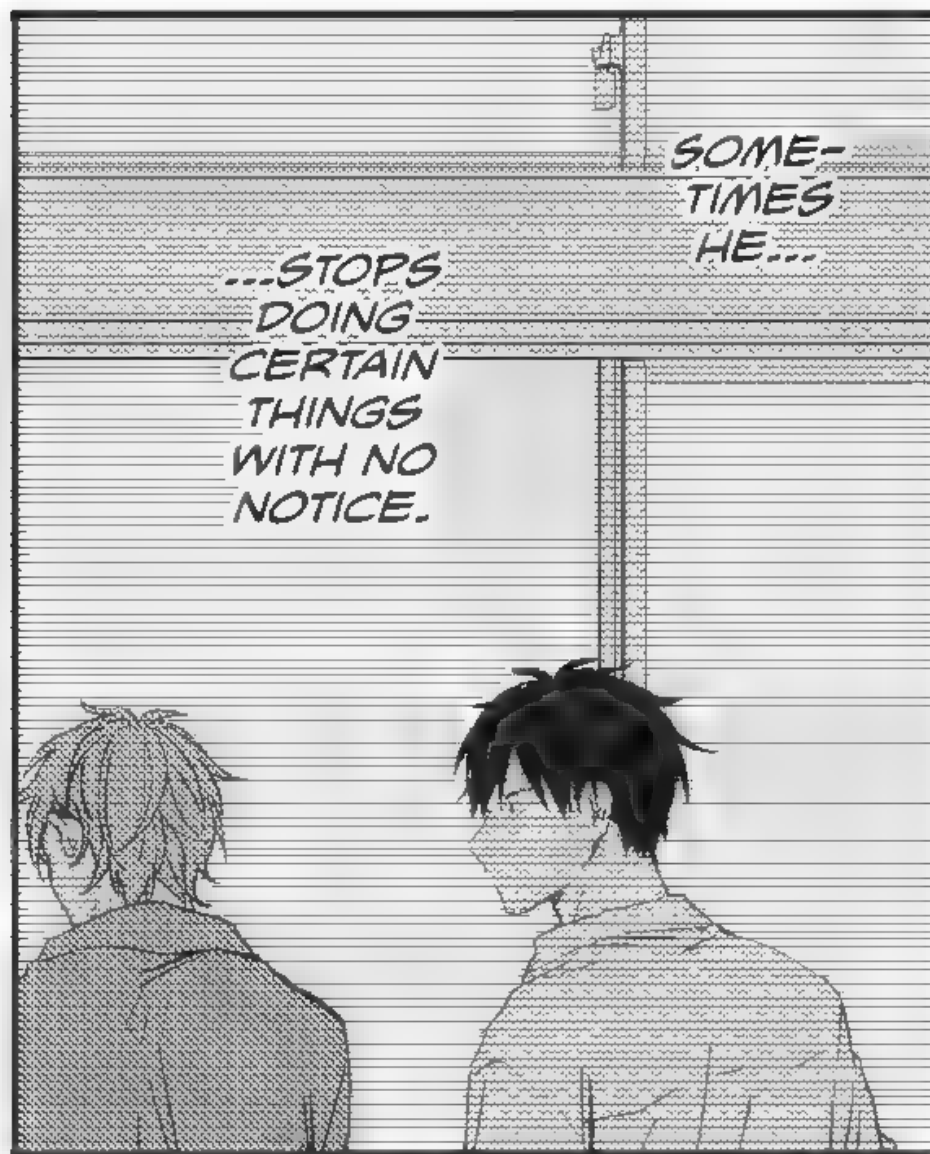
BUT...

I CAN
WAIT
FOR
HIM.

I'M
FINE
WITH
THAT.



BUT...



SOME-
TIMES
HE...

...STOPS
DOING
CERTAIN
THINGS
WITH NO
NOTICE.

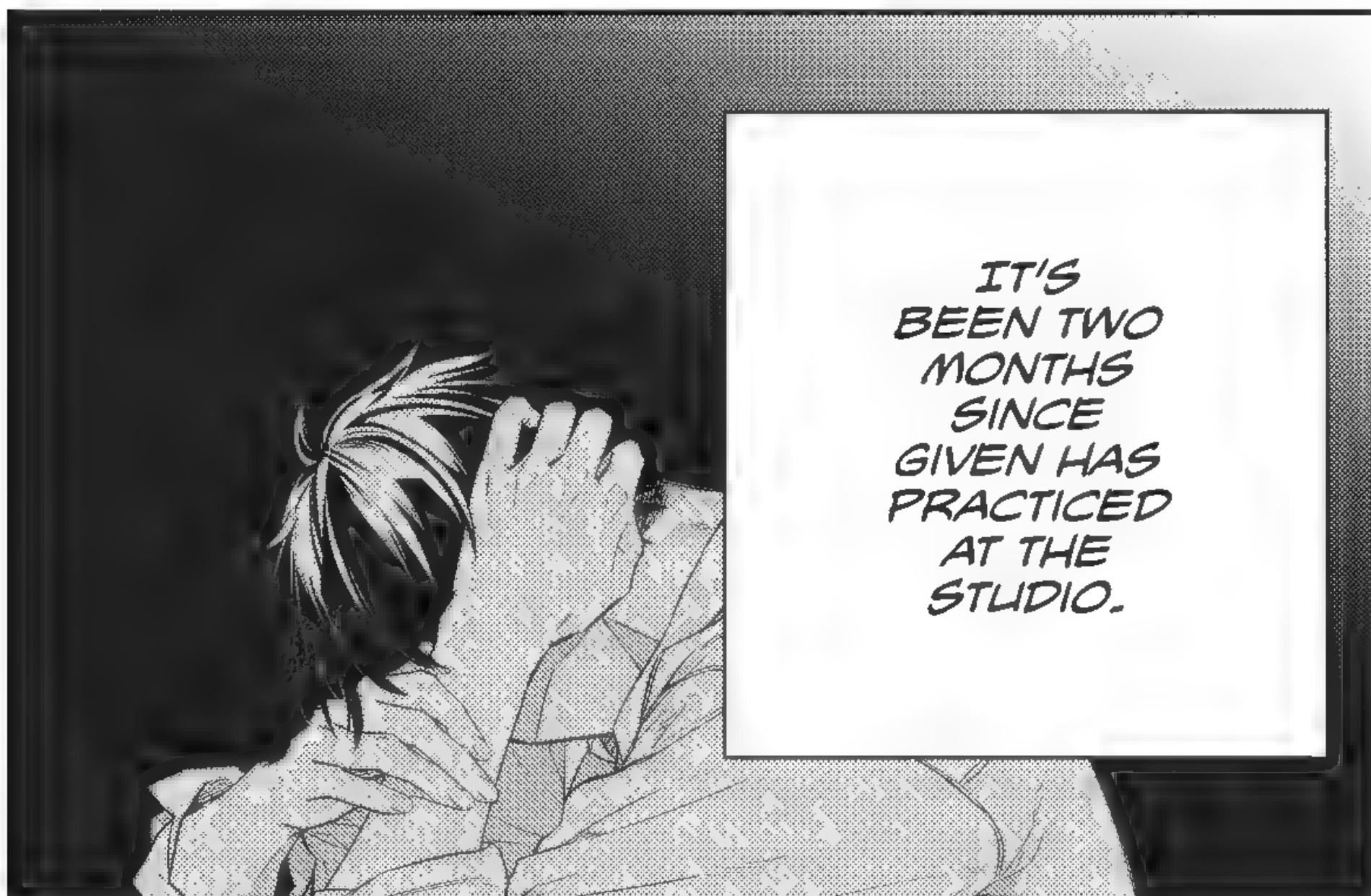


IT WAS
LIKE
HE WAS
COM-
PLETLY
REJECTING
MUSIC.

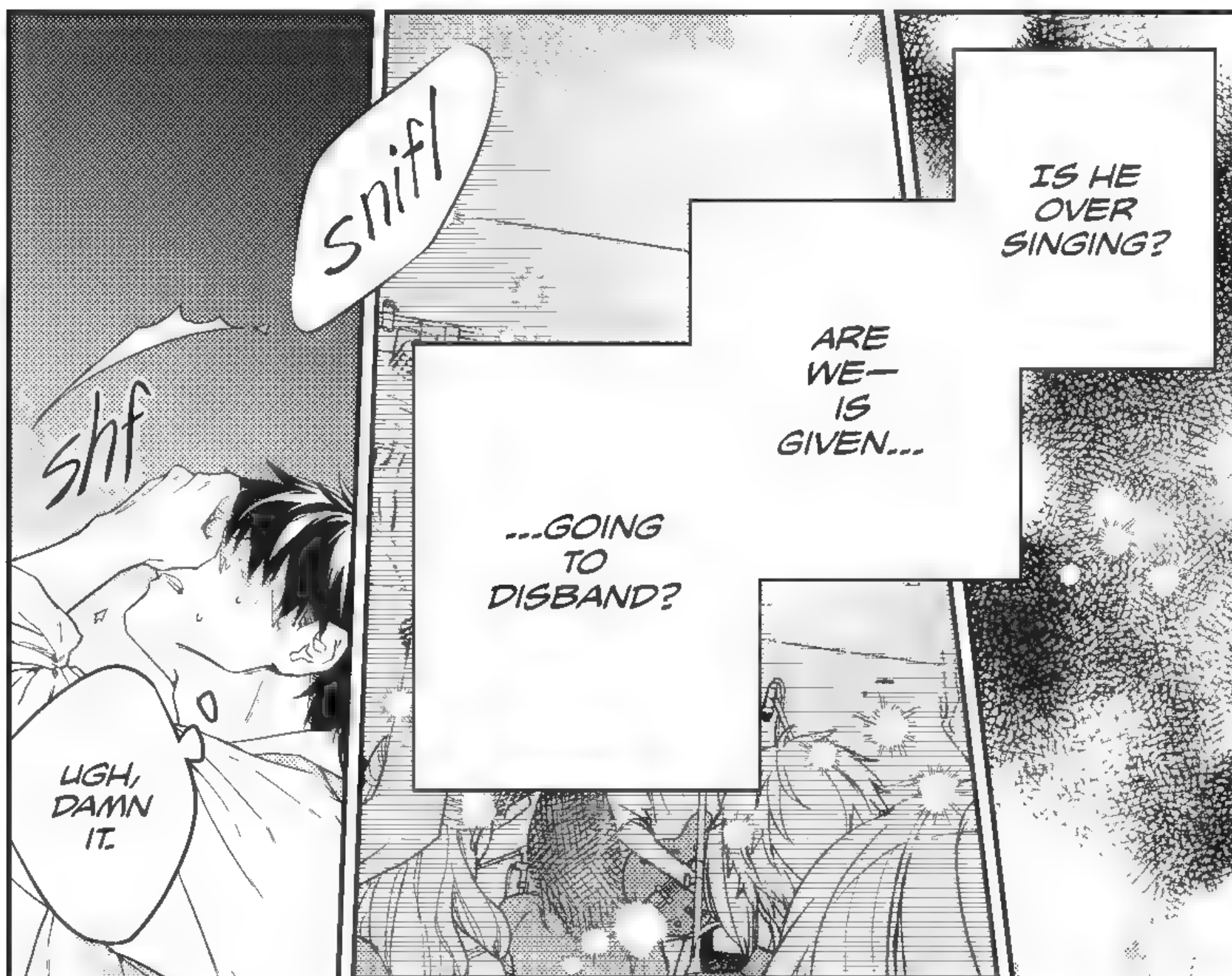


...
TODAY
WAS
...

...DIF-
FERENT.



IT'S
BEEN TWO
MONTHS
SINCE
GIVEN HAS
PRACTICED
AT THE
STUDIO.




snif/

IS HE
OVER
SINGING?

ARE
WE—
IS
GIVEN...

...GOING
TO
DISBAND?

UGH,
DAMN
IT.



MAYBE I
SHOULD'VE
NEVER
AGREED TO
PLAY FOR
THEM.



BUT...

DAMN
IT.

NOT WHEN
MY OWN
BAND'S
IN SUCH
TURMOIL.



THAT'S
WHY I
FINISHED
THE
SONG.

...I
WANTED
HIM TO
HEAR
IT...



AND
THAT'S MY
STRENGTH.

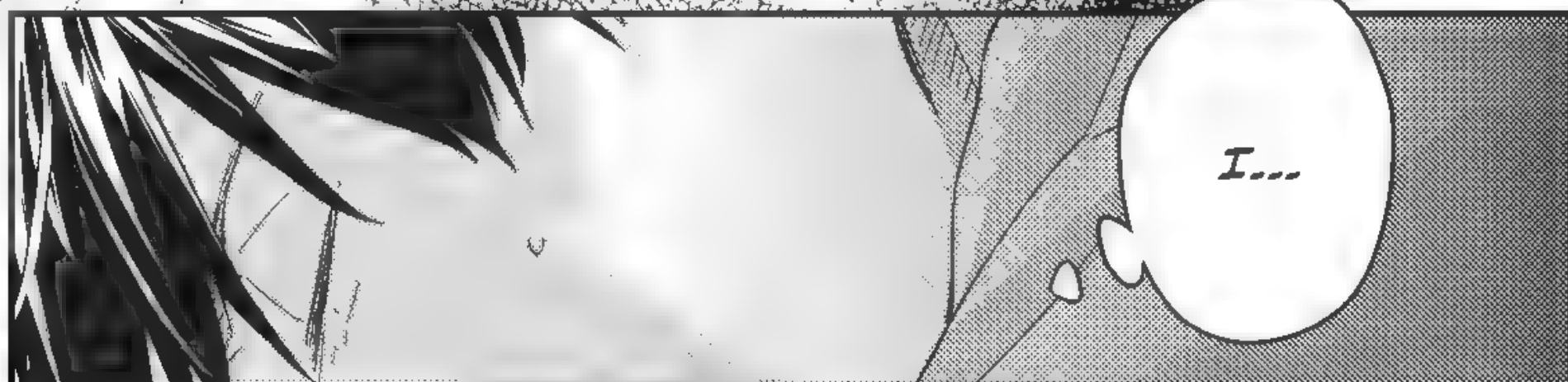
THAT
"SUFFERING"
YOU GUYS
DO ISN'T
MY JAM.



I WOULD
GLADLY
SACRIFICE
MYSELF FOR
HIRAGI'S
MUSIC.



...



I...



WHEN
IT COMES
DOWN
TO IT,
I LOOK
UP TO
HIM.

...AND
DEDICATE
MYSELF
TO THE
BAND
AND TO
MAFLYU.

...WANT
TO BE
LIKE
SHIZU-
SUMI...



...ARE
MELED
INTO THE
IDEAL
FORM.

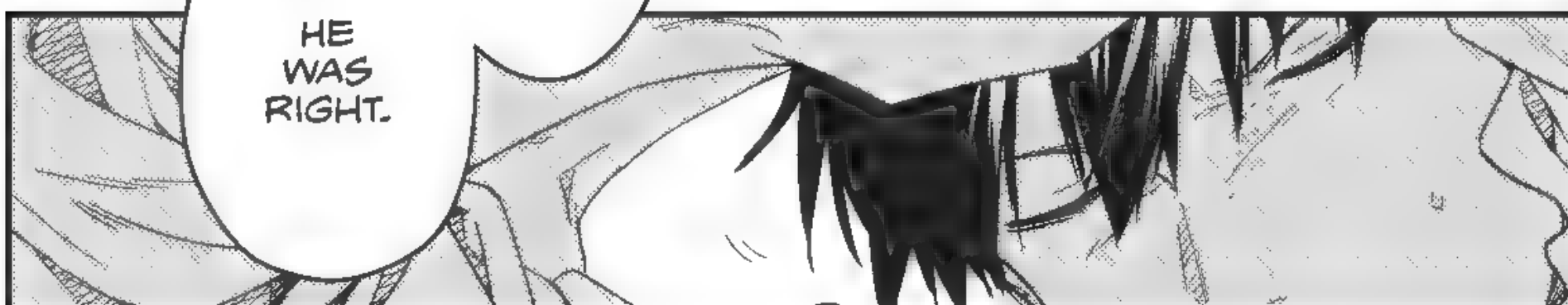
HIS
DEVOTION
TO MUSIC
AND
LOVE...



I
NEED TO
EMULATE
HIM—
THAT'S
WHAT I
THOUGHT.

...I CAN
TAKE CARE
OF THE
BAND AND
MAFLYU.

IF I
CAN BE
LIKE
HIM...



given

by Natsuki Kizu

given

by Natsuki Kizu

Hiragi Mix 14

given



**I'M
STARTING
TO GET
MORE AND
MORE
PISSED.**



I MEAN...
I GET IT...
I THINK
I DO,
ANYWAY...

IF I
WERE
IN HIS
SHOES,
I'D BE
ANNOYED
TOO.

HONESTLY,
I'D NEVER
WANT
TO SEE
MAFLUYU
SINGING
WITH
ANYBODY
ELSE.

(NARCISSIST.)

S
L
A
M



BLIT...

Wanna
join my
band?

**WHY AM
I THE
ONLY ONE
GETTING
REJECTED?!**

brood
brood

**WHAT'S
UP WITH
THAT?!**

Uh,
whuh?

Wanna
go pro?

...STILL...

Wanna
go to my
concert?

**WHY IS IT
WHEN
I CHASE
HIM...**

**...HE
STARTS
PULLING
AWAY?!**

N~N~



WHY
HAS IT
BEEN
LIKE THAT
LATELY?

DO
YOU NO
LONGER
CARE
ABOUT
MUSIC?!

WAIT

DON'T
JUST
MAKE
THE EASY
ASSUMPTION.

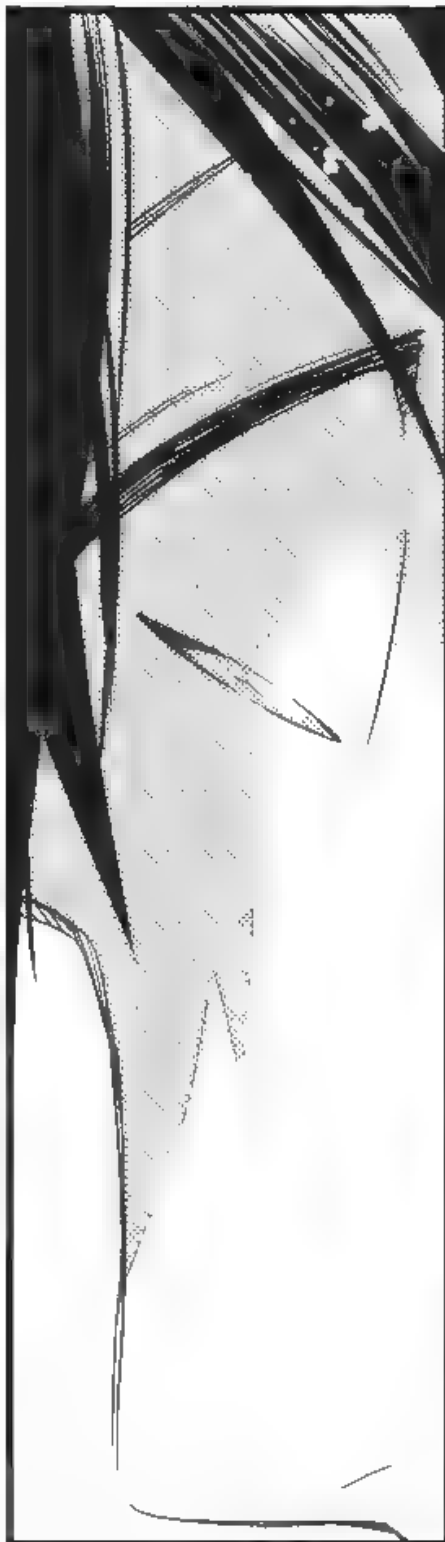
STOP
THAT
TRAIN OF
THOUGHT.

IT'S NOT
THAT HE
DOESN'T
CARE.

NO.



OH.



NORMALLY...

...MAFLIYU
PLOWS
FORWARD
MORE THAN
ANYONE,
SO LONG
AS HE'S
NOT HUNG
UP ON
SOMETHING.



THAT'S
RIGHT...

OF
COURSE.

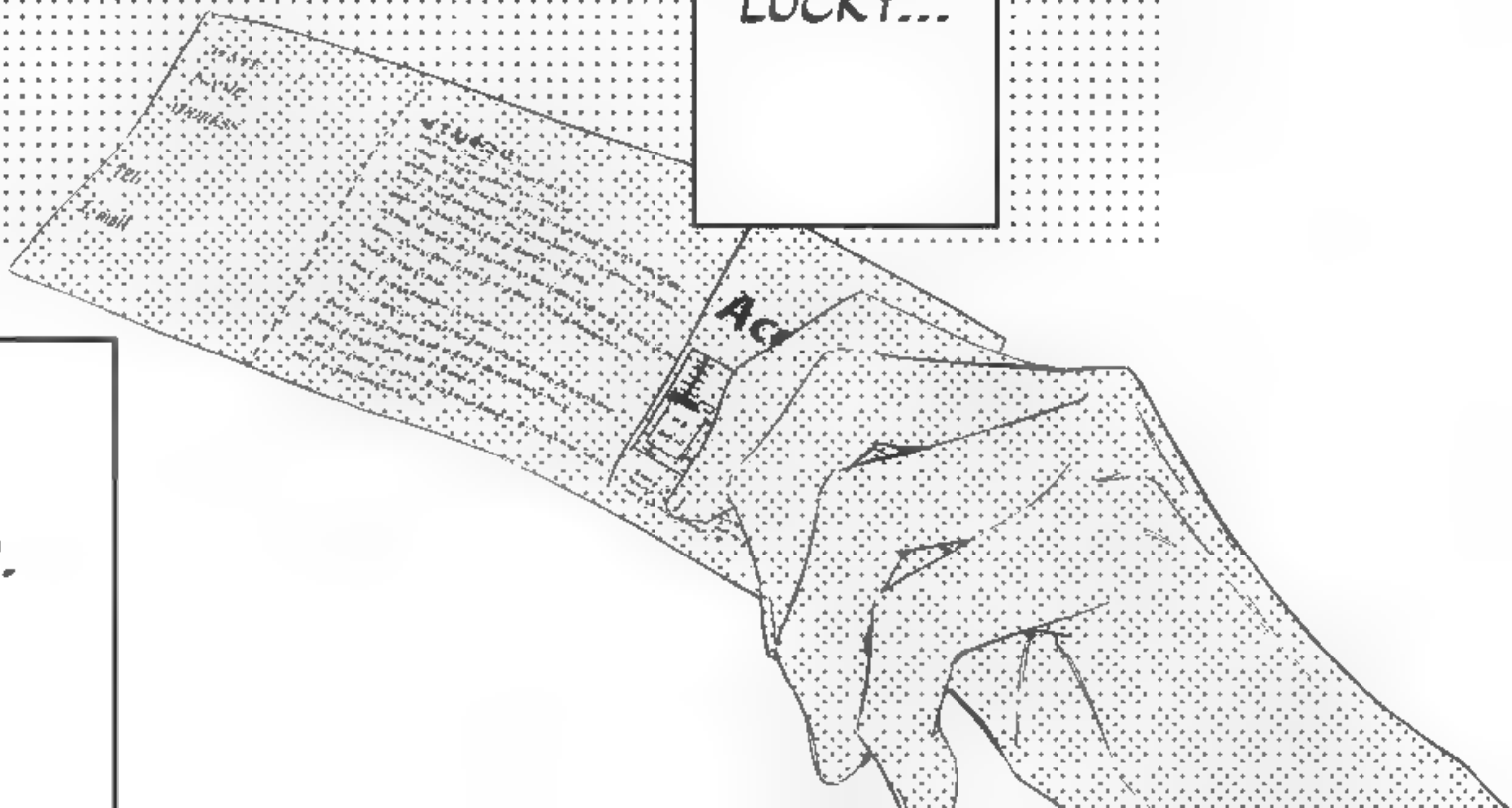
I GET
IT NOW.

HE'S HUNG
UP ON
SOMETHING.



LUCKY...

...YOU.





YOU'RE
CLOSER
TO THE
BIG TIME
THAN
THE REST
OF US.



IN THE
END...

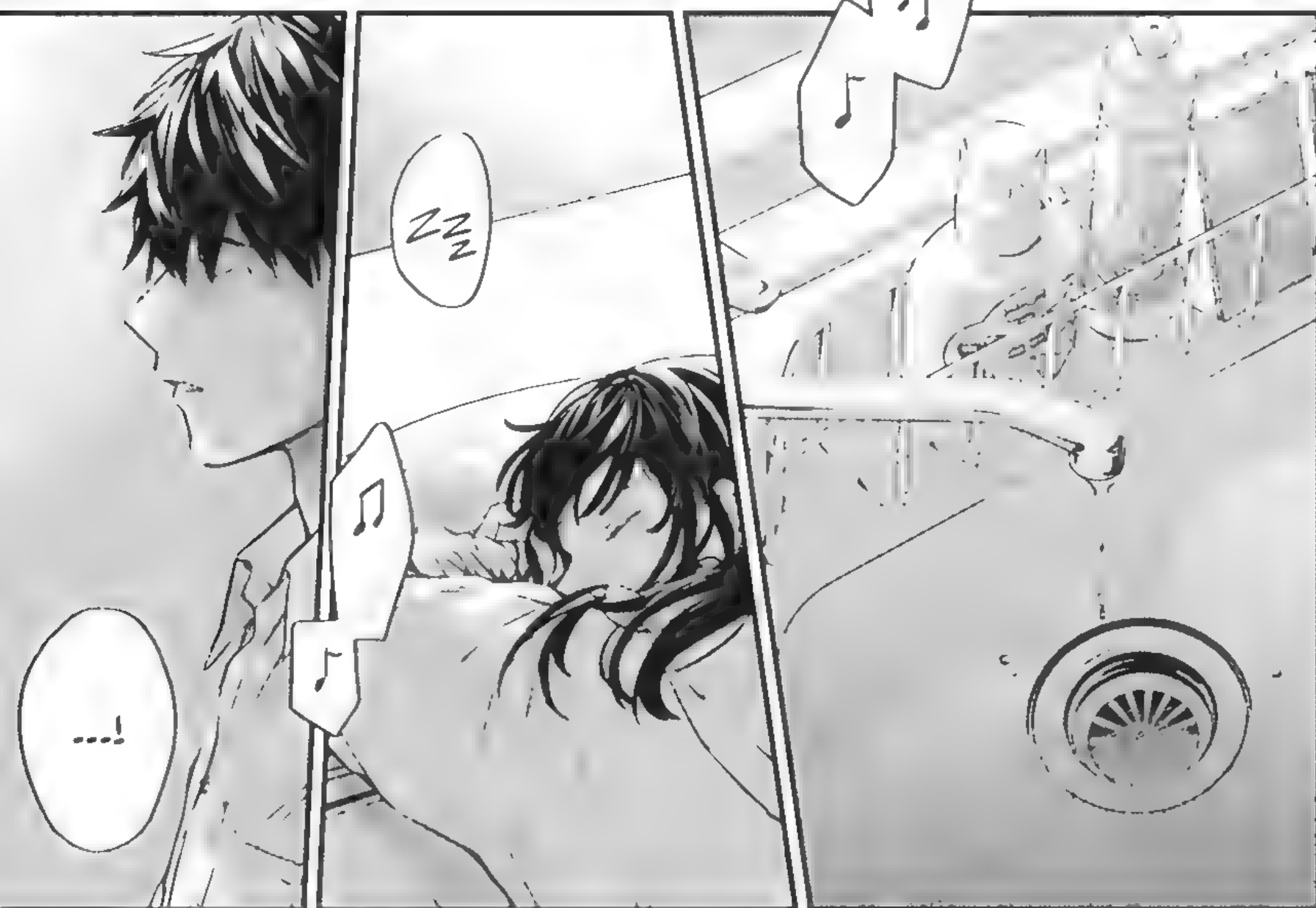
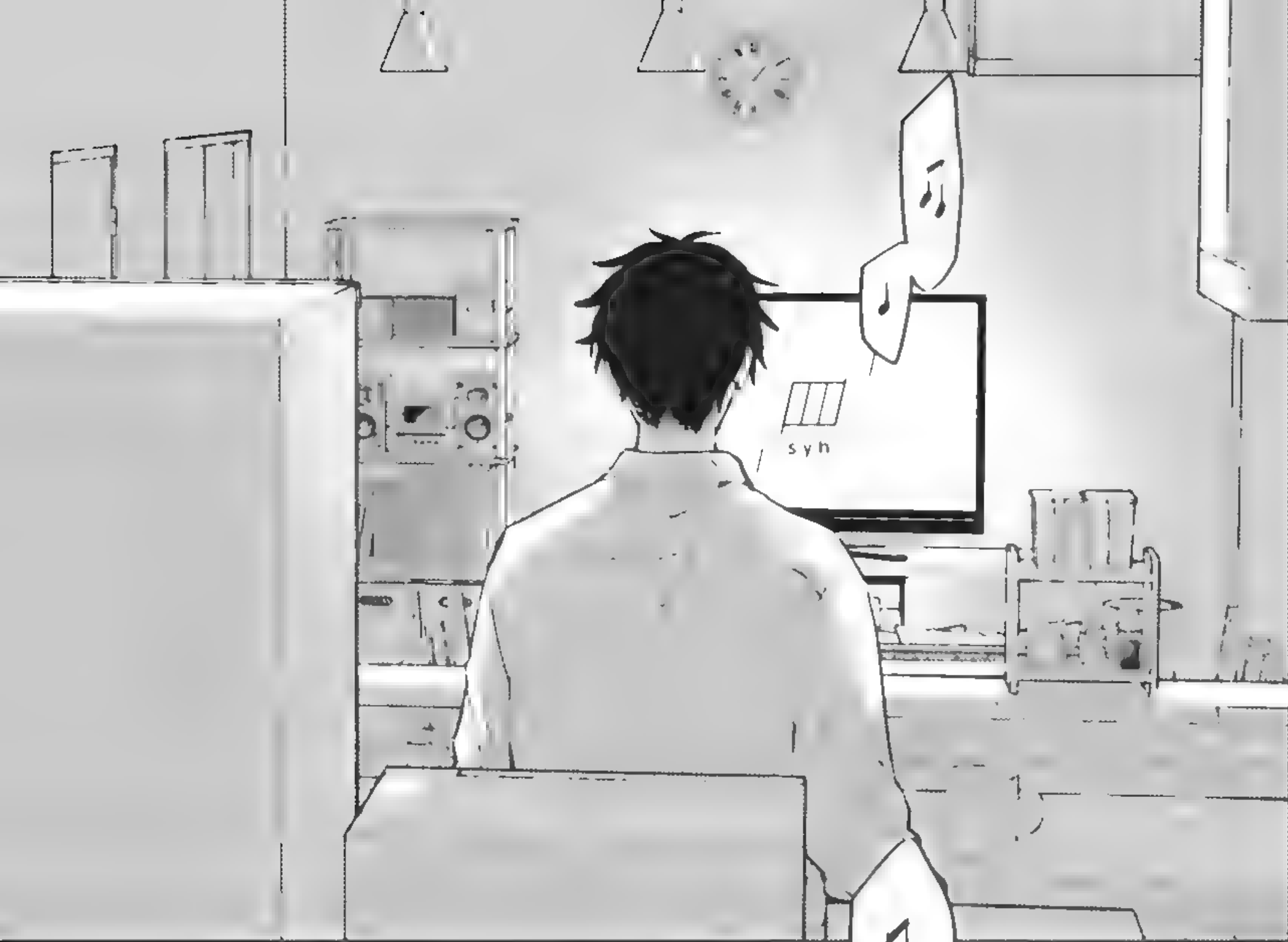
SINCE YOU'RE
GONNA BE
UP ONSTAGE,
HOW ABOUT
PULLING
MAFUYU
UP THERE
WITH YOU?

...WE'LL
LURE HIM
IN WITH
MUSIC,
LIKE
ALWAYS.



Ah

LIKE
ALWAYS...





SYH'S
MAJOR
DEBUT
SINGLE.



IT'S
BLOWING
UP AND
ON SALE
NOW!



THAT'S
RIGHT.
IN THE
END...

RIGHT...

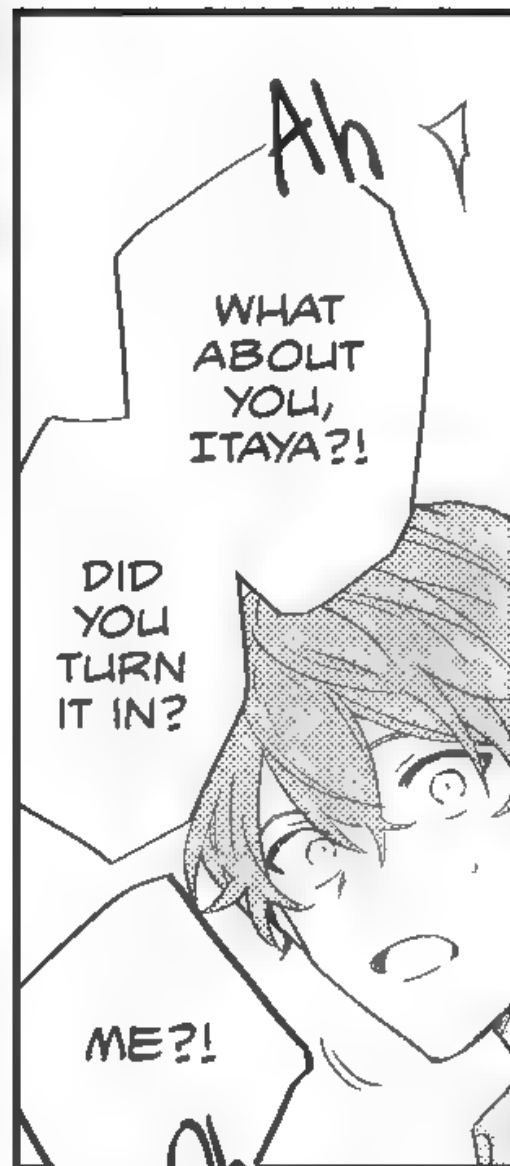






I
ALREADY
HAVE AN
UNOFFICIAL
OFFER...

...TO
JOIN
A PRO
TEAM.



Ah
WHAT
ABOUT
YOU,
ITAYA?!

DID
YOU
TURN
IT IN?

ME?!



...



Oh...
RIGHT!

MINE.

fwip

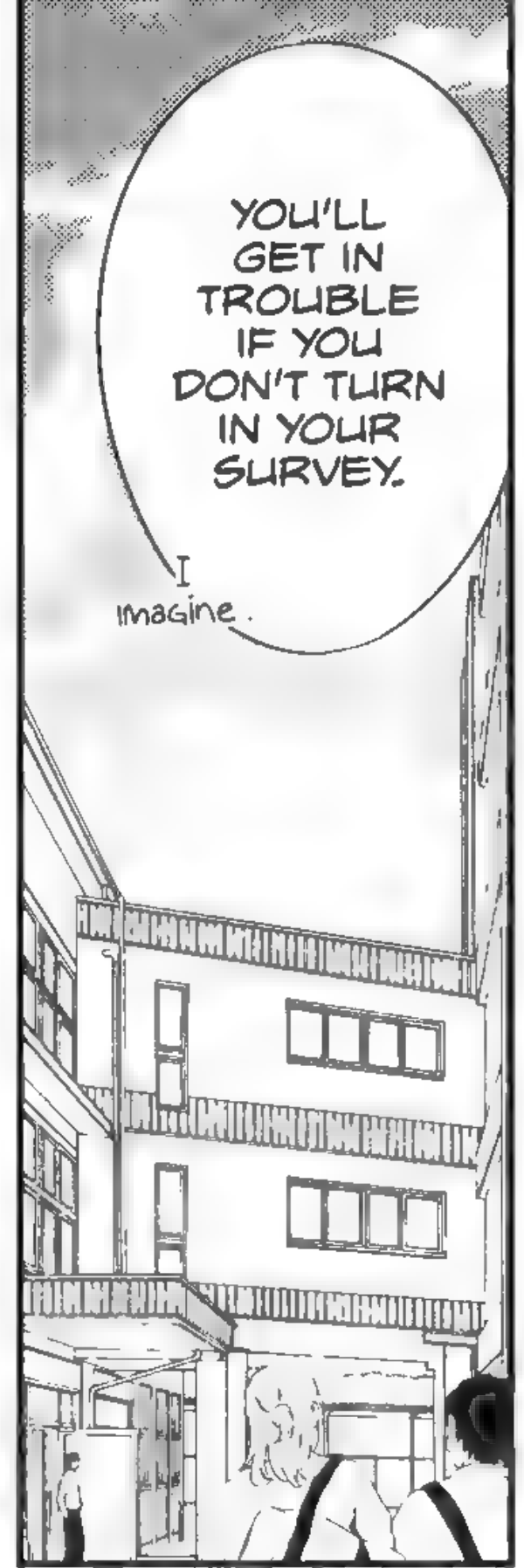
TA-DAH!
WHADDA YA
KNOW...





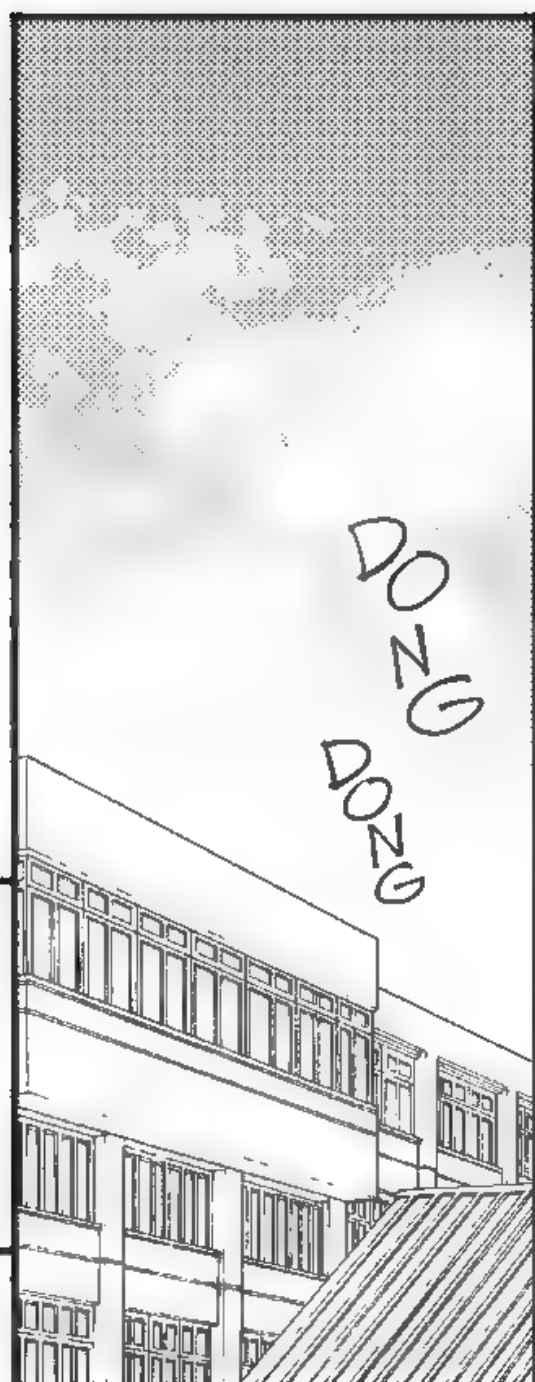
I JUST
CHOSE
THE ONE
THAT'D
BE THE
MOST
WORK.











WHAT'RE
YOU
WAITING
FOR?
LET'S GO.

RIGHT...



DON'T
YOU THINK
MAFLYU
WAS
ACTING
KINDA
WEIRD?



WHY
DO
YOU
ASK?



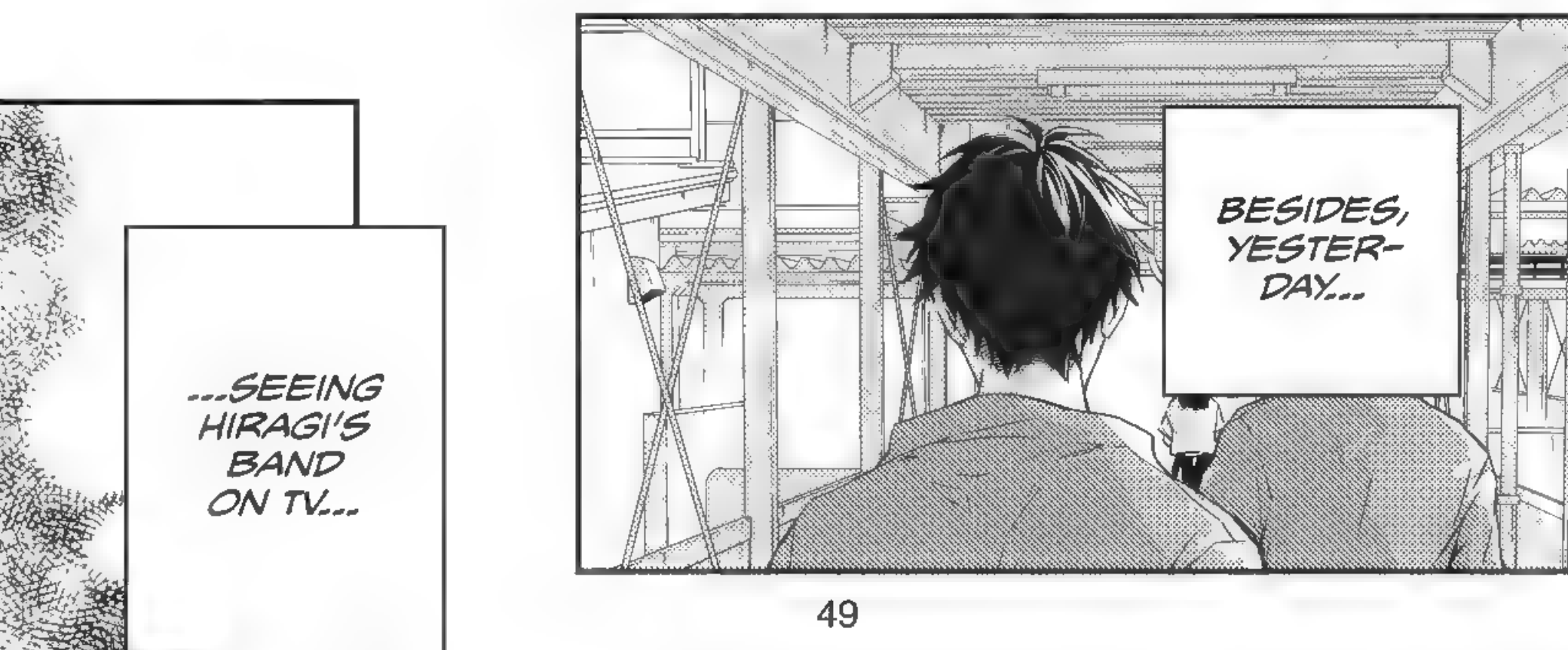
DID YOU
AND
MAFLYU
GET IN A
FIGHT?



I can't
believe you
picked up
on that.

....!
WELL,
I
GUESS.

HE'S
AVOIDING
ME...
I THINK.



AND IT
SUDDENLY
SLINK IN.

...THOSE
GUYS
REALLY
ARE
PROS.

...I
WAS
LIKE,
YEAH...

I HAVE A
REAL CHANCE
OF GETTING
ONSTAGE.

...WITH
MUSIC.

AND IF
THAT'S
THE CASE,
I'LL
JUST HIT
MAFLUYU...





ALL
THOSE
FEELINGS
I HAD
PLAYING
RHYTHM
GUITAR...

THE
INFERIORITY
COMPLEX...

THE
GUILT...



I'LL
JUST
TOSS
THEM ALL
ASIDE.

ALL
THOSE
HALF-
ASSED
FEELINGS...

I'VE
GOT THE
PERFECT
BLUNT
INSTRUMENTS
FOR IT...



...SO
WHY
WAS I
EVER
CONFUSED
ABOUT
WHAT
TO DO?



IT'S
THE
MUSIC...

...THAT
I WANT
TO
FACE.

...THAT
I'LL
FACE...

WILL HE
ACTUALLY
COME
TO THE
CONCERT?!

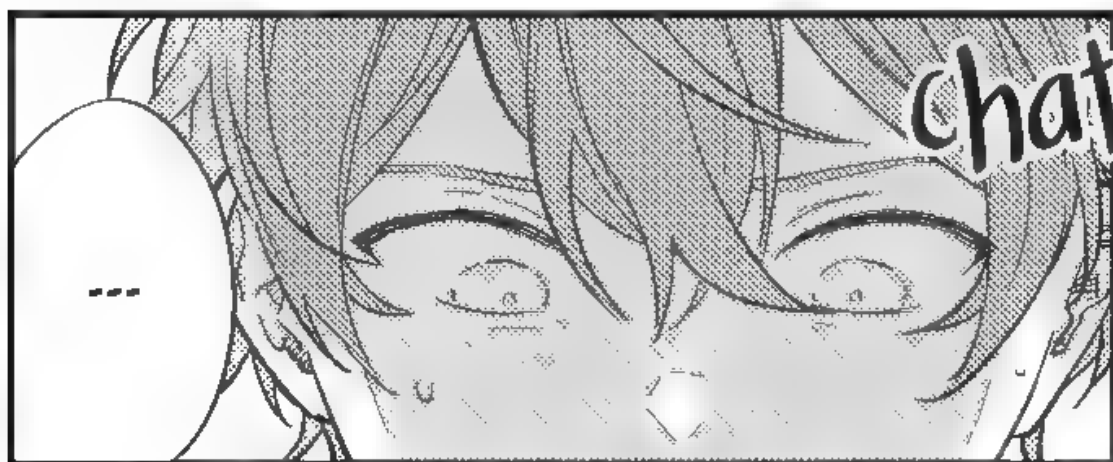


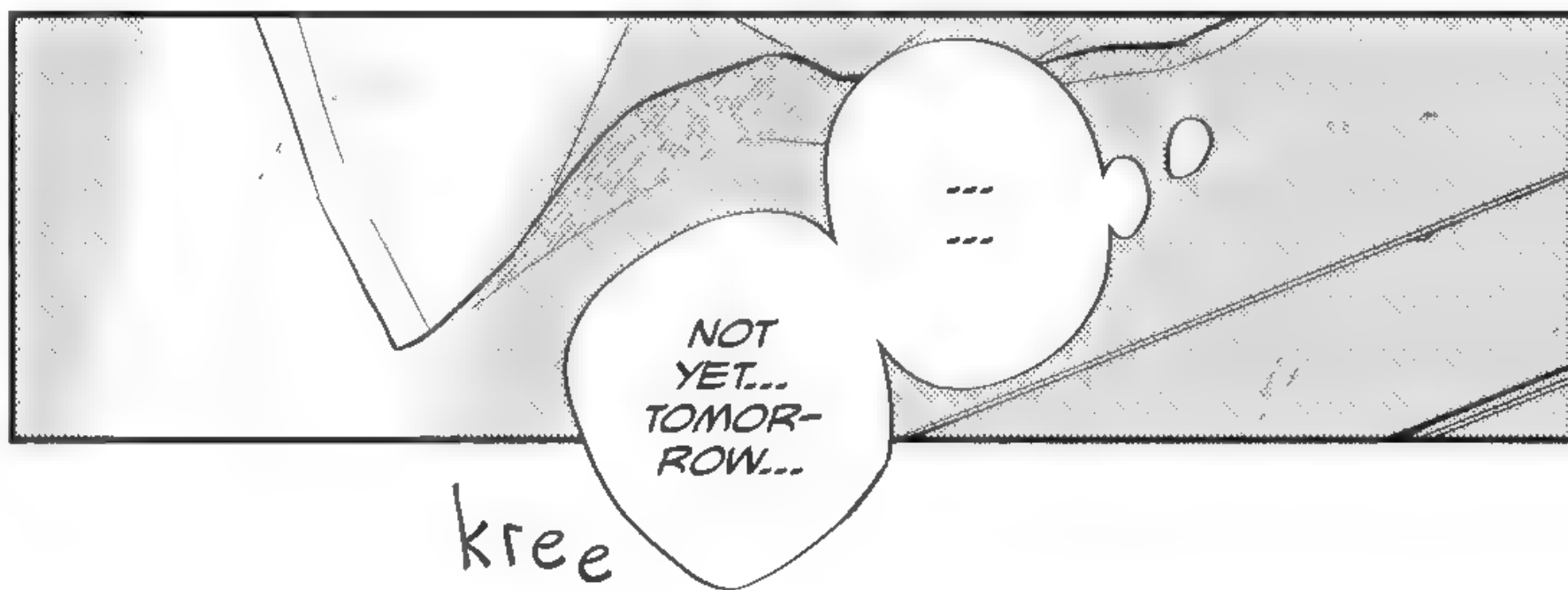
THE
REAL
ISSUE
IS...



given

by Natsuki Kizu





A black and white line drawing of a hand reaching out from the right side of the frame. The hand is positioned to touch a vertical metal bar, which is part of a larger structure with several other similar bars. The background is a simple, light-colored area with some faint, dark, textured shapes at the top and bottom.

I'LL
THINK
ABOUT
IT THEN.

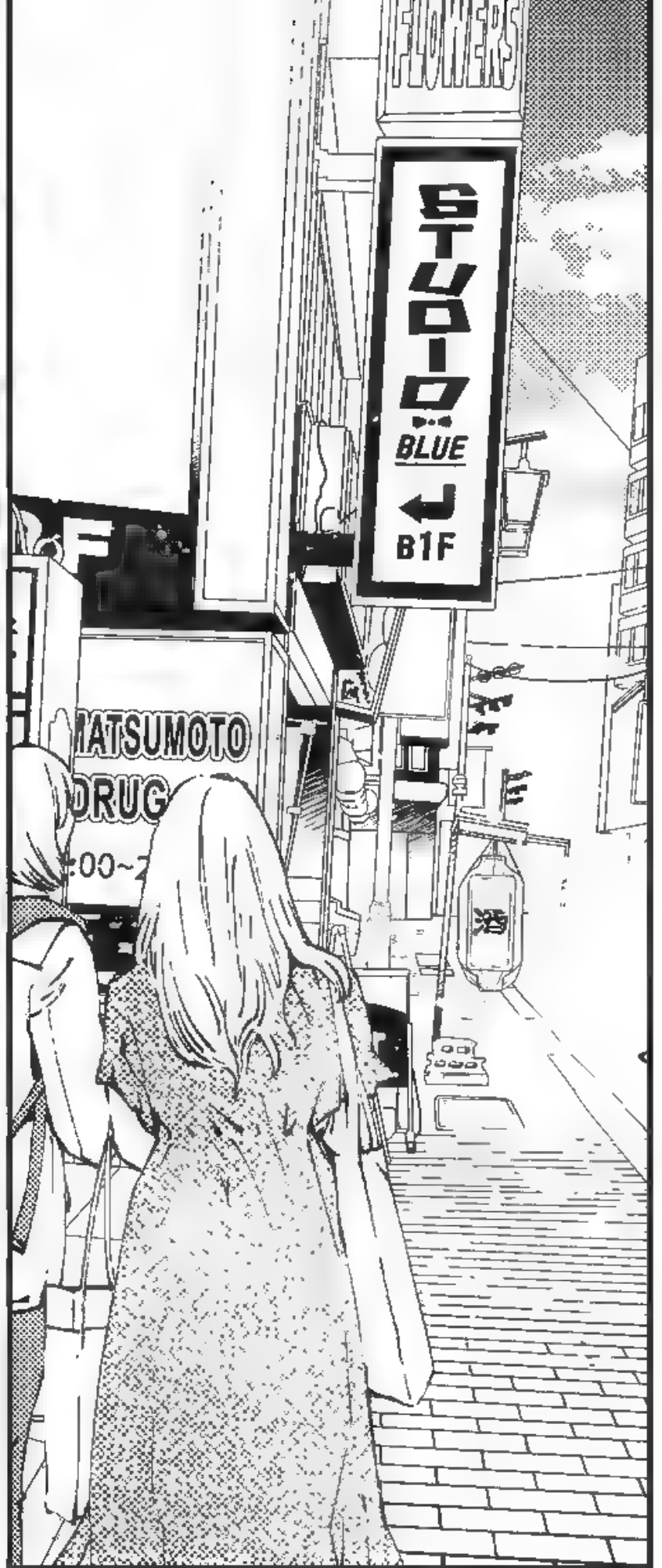
A black and white line drawing of a hand reaching out from the right side of the frame. The hand is positioned to touch a vertical metal bar, which is part of a larger structure with several other similar bars. The background is a simple, light-colored area with some faint, dark, textured shapes at the top and bottom.

chak

Hiragi Mix 15

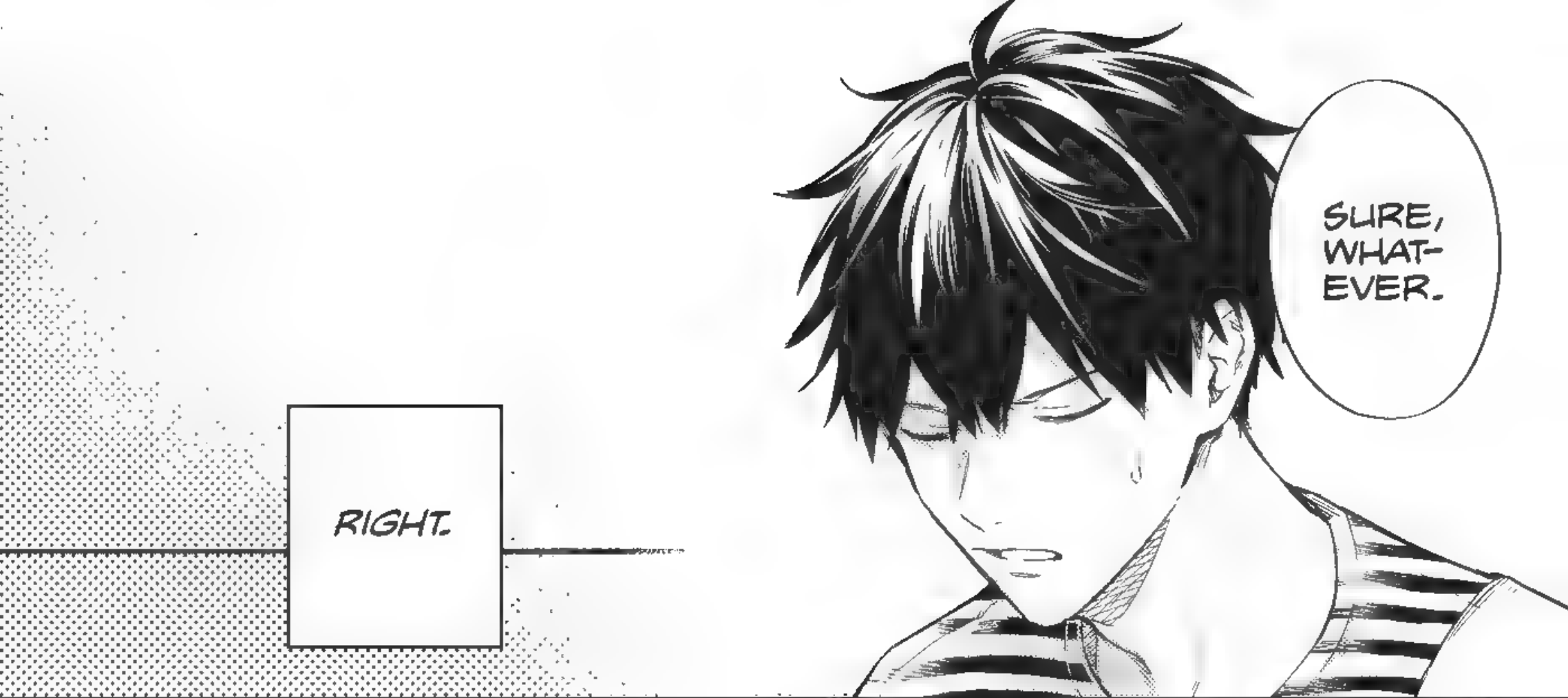
given





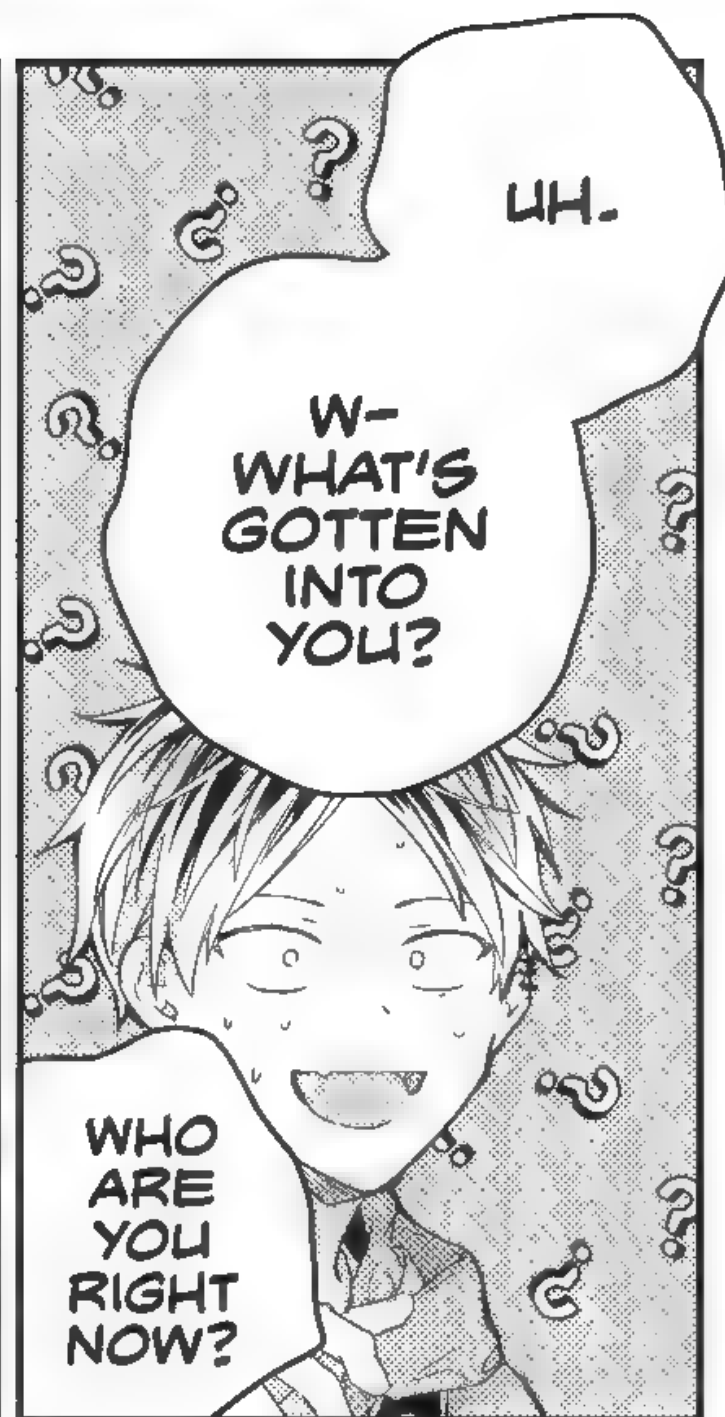
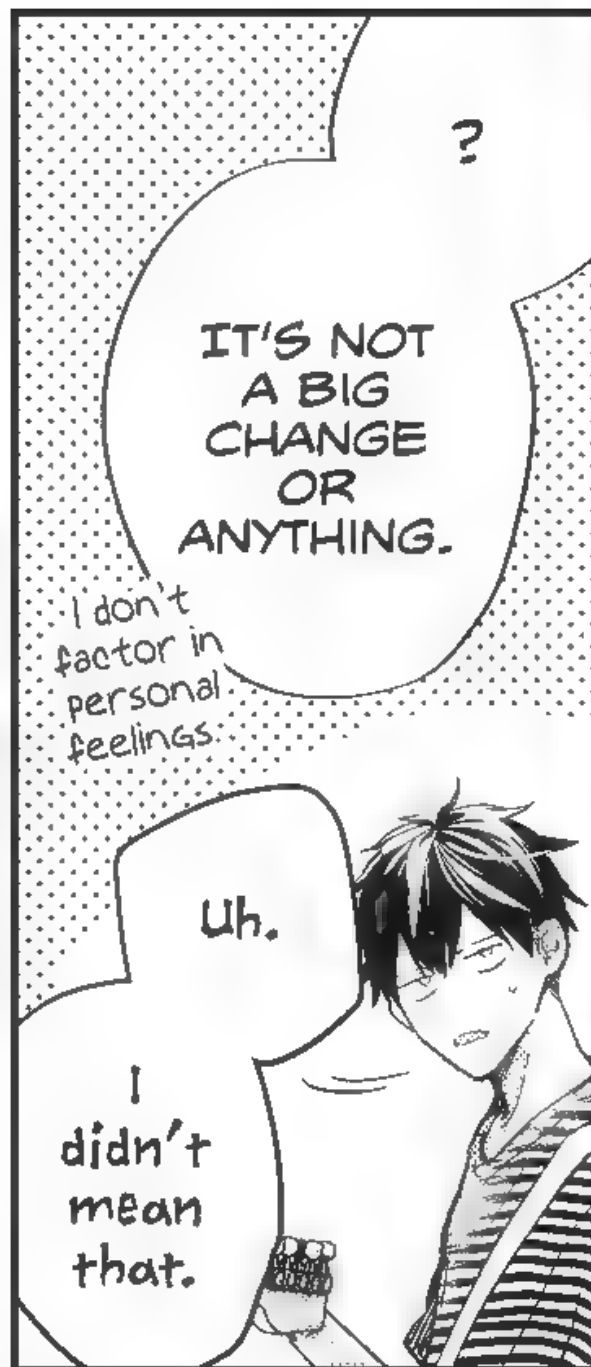


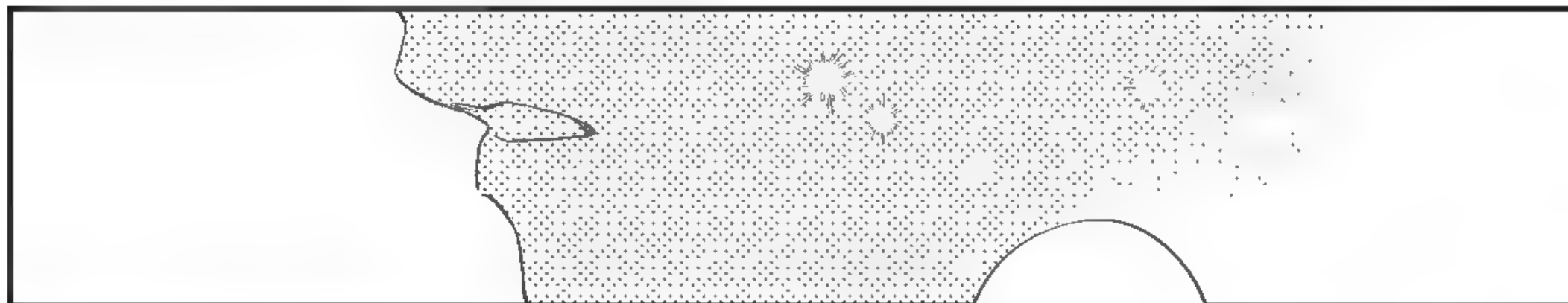


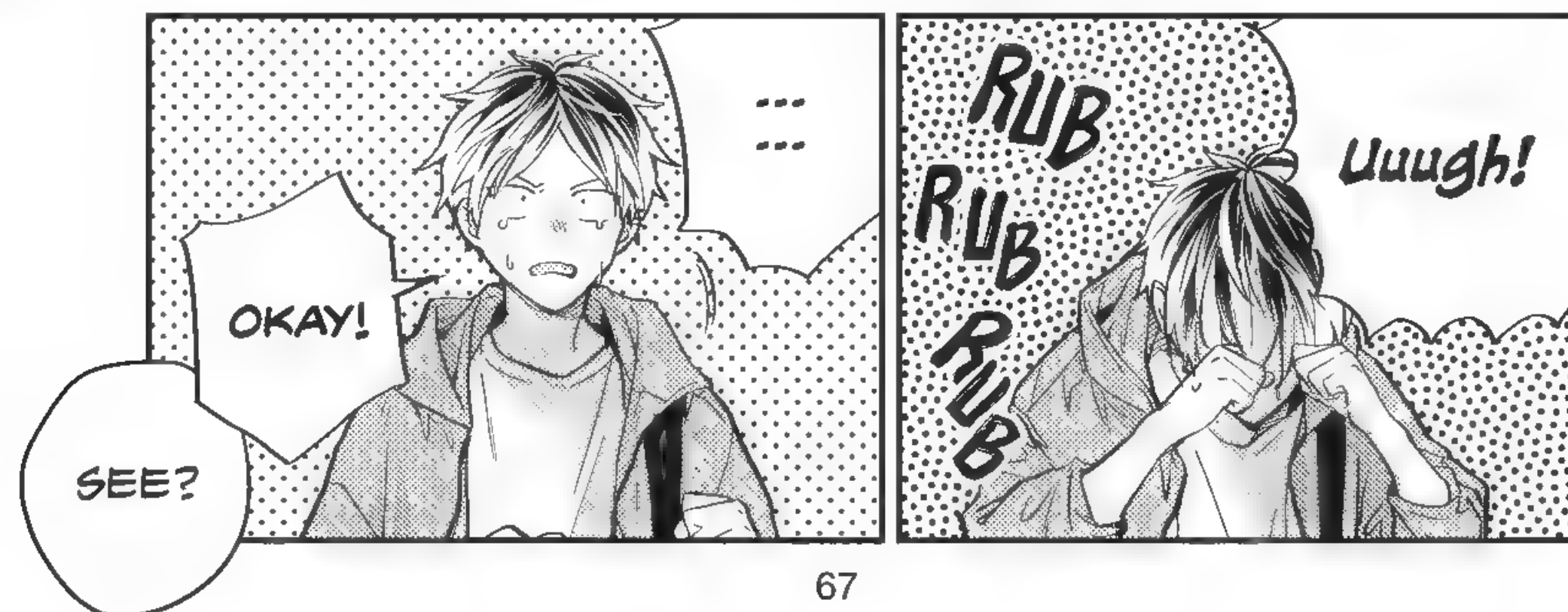




















syh_hiragi

...



My favs. The two of us and our rhythm guitarist are gonna stream this weekend.

given

by Natsuki Kizu



Hiragi Mix 16

given



WHAT?



...YOU'RE
STARTING
TO THINK
ABOUT
YOUR
DEBUT?!

THEN...

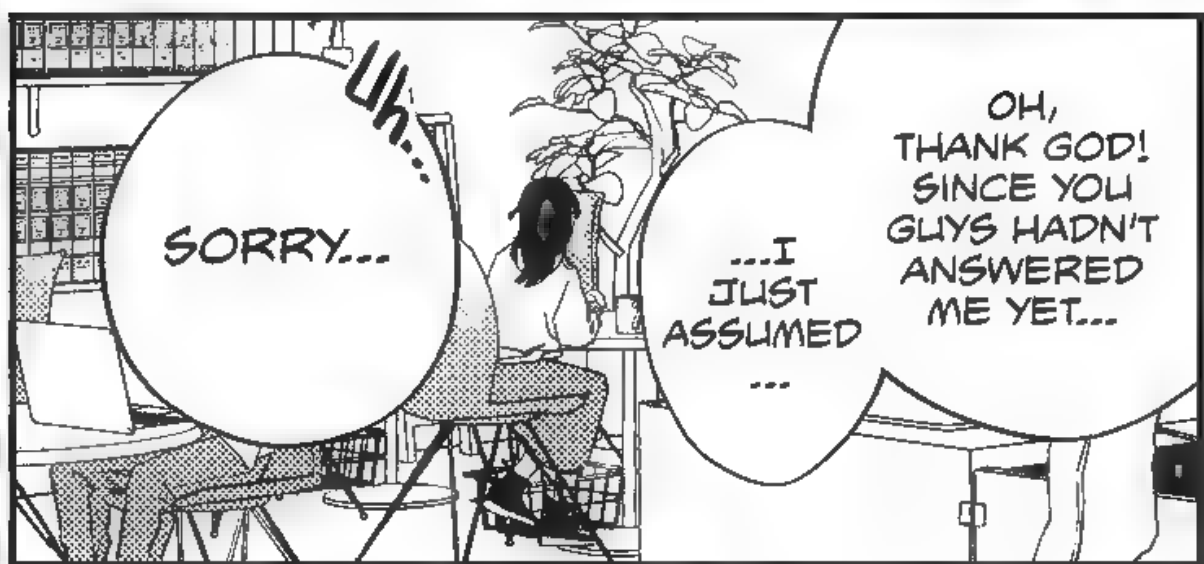


I JUST
COULDN'T
GET ALL
THE
MEMBERS
TOGETHER
...

IT'S
ALL
RIGHT.



Y-yes...



Uh...
SORRY...

...I
JUST
ASSUMED
...

OH,
THANK GOD!
SINCE YOU
GUYS HADN'T
ANSWERED
ME YET...



THIS...

THEY'RE
ALL
ABOUT TO
GRADUATE,
AFTER
ALL.

...IS
THE
GUY...



...ASKED
US IF
WE'D
CONSIDER
MAKING
OUR
DEBUT.



...WHO
APPROACHED
US AT CAC.
HE WORKS
AT A
RECORD
LABEL...



...AND...



IT'S
JUST...



...IN-
CRED-
IBLY
GRATE-
FUL...

...SO
I'M...

...WE
NEVER
IMAGINED
WE'D GET AN
OPPORTUNITY
LIKE THIS...



AS I
SAID
IN MY
MESSAGE



ONE
OF THE
MEMBERS
IS STILL
DECIDING...



94/p



...RIGHT?



IT'S
JUST
...

I'M
SURE
IN THE
END
HE'LL
CHOOSE
TO PLAY
WITH
US.

I
THINK—
NO...



I'D
LIKE
TO WAIT
FOR
HIM.

WELL...



...SO I'D
LIKE TO
WAIT A
LITTLE
LONGER.

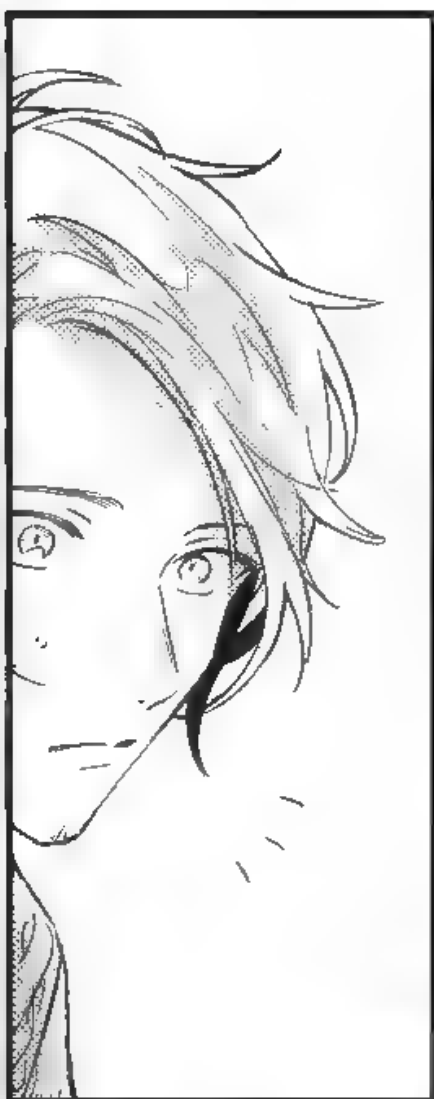
BUT I'D
LIKE ALL
FOUR OF
US TO BE
IN THIS
TOGETHER
...

I'M
NOT
SURE
HOW
TO PUT
THIS...

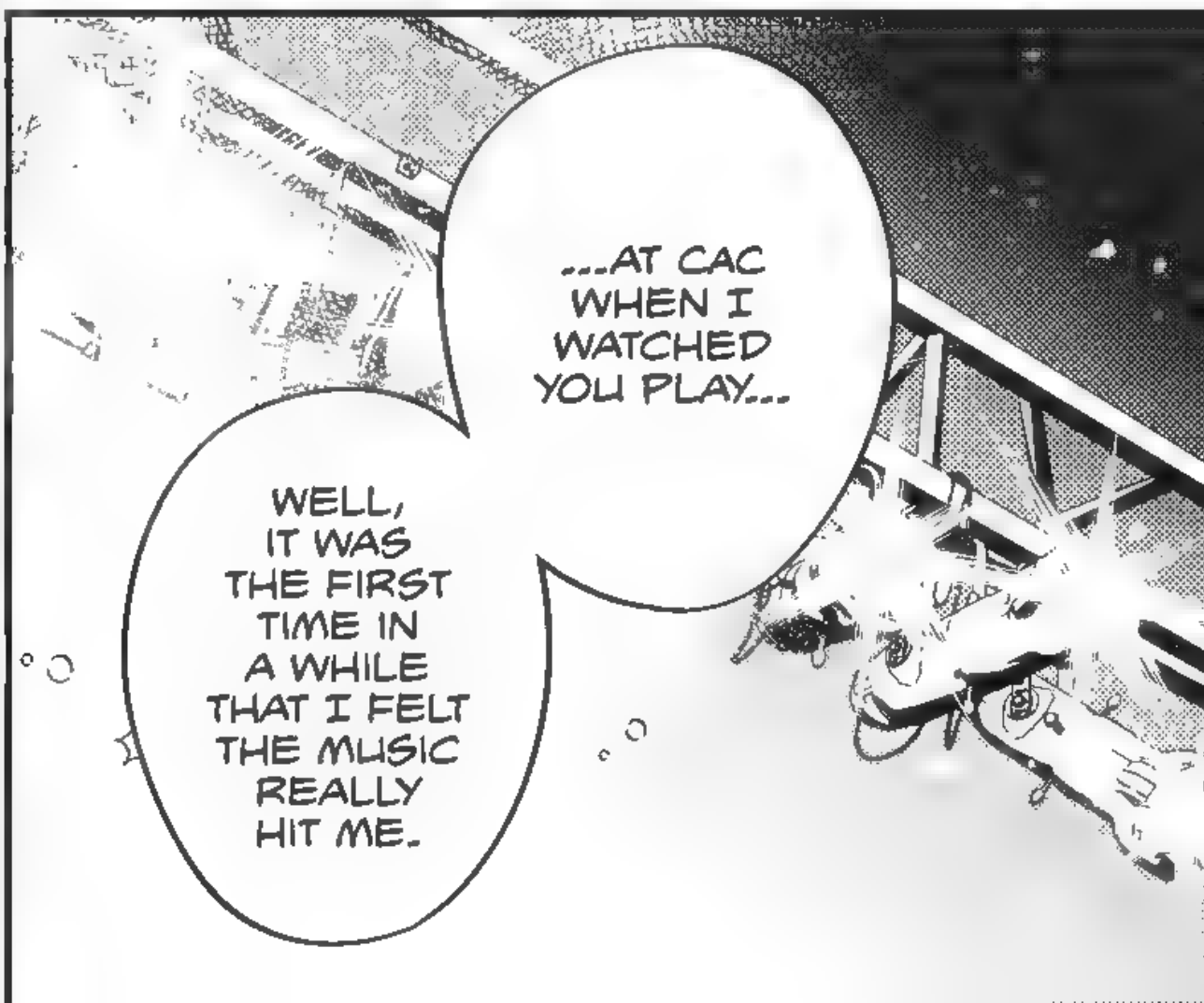
HE'S
THE TYPE
WHO
NEEDS
TIME TO
DECIDE
...



I FELT
A SHIVER
RUN
THROUGH
ME.



THAT
DAY...



...AT CAC
WHEN I
WATCHED
YOU PLAY...

WELL,
IT WAS
THE FIRST
TIME IN
A WHILE
THAT I FELT
THE MUSIC
REALLY
HIT ME.





OR HOW
LONG HE
NEEDED
TO WAIT.

...HE
NEVER
EVEN
ASKED
WHO
WAS
STILL
ON THE
FENCE.

AFTER
I SAID
ALL THAT
VAGUE
CRAP...



GUESS
THAT'S
WHAT THE
WORLD
OF THE
PROS IS
LIKE.

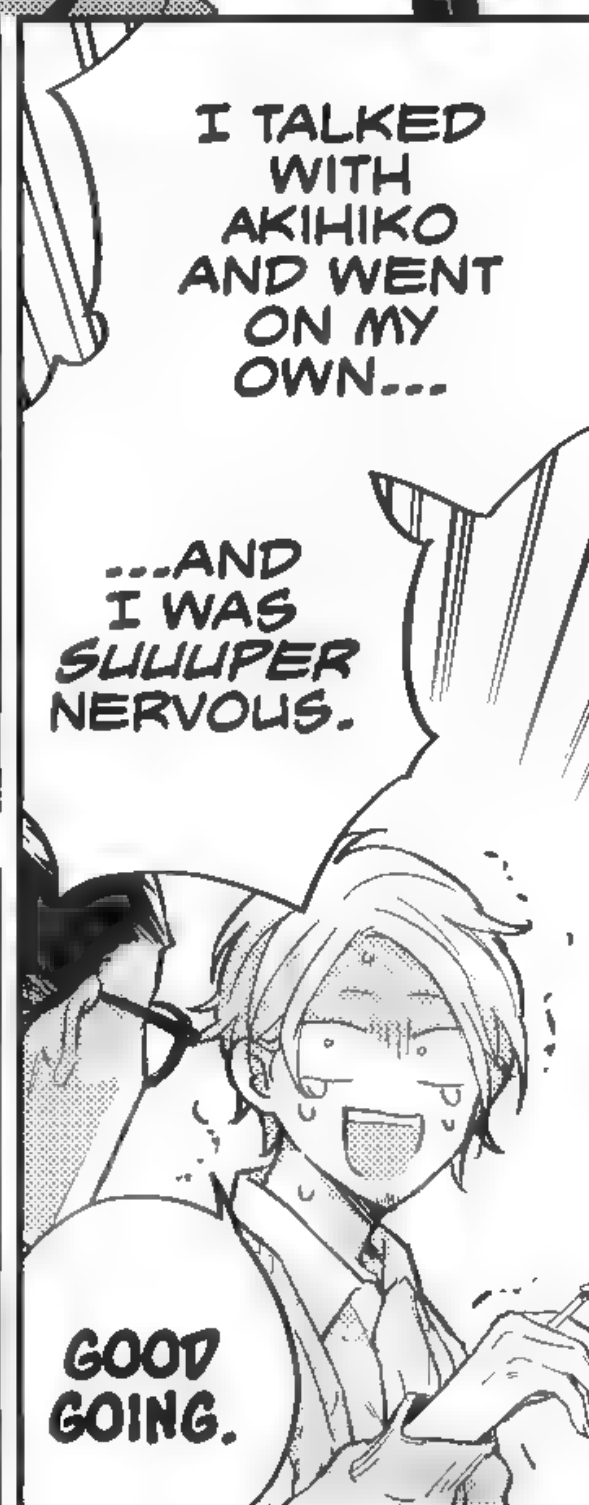


I
JUST
SAW...

...A DEEP
LOOK
IN HIS
EYES AS
HE TRIED
TO GUAGE
JUST HOW
SERIOUS
WE WERE.







YEAH...

HM.

YOU'RE
REALLY
GOING TO
A LOT OF
TROUBLE
FOR THIS.

WELL,
I FEEL
LIKE HIS
SONG
RESCUED
ME FROM
MY OWN
PERSONAL
TURMOIL.

NOT
SURE
HOW
TO SAY
THIS...

...BUT I
WANNA BE
ONE OF
THE PEOPLE
GIVING
MAFLYU THE
PUSH HE
NEEDS...

THAT'S
REALLY
IT.

I SAY THAT,
BUT AT
THE END
OF THE DAY,
ALL I CAN
DO IS WAIT.



IT IS?

HUH...

GUESS
THAT'S
JUST A
THING THAT
HAPPENS
WITH
BANDS.



I'VE
EXPERI-
ENCED IT
BEFORE

BUT,
HMM...



...AND
FINALLY
REALIZE
THE ROLE
YOU WERE
MEANT
TO PLAY.



SOME-
TIMES

...YOU
FEEL
THIS, LIKE,
DIVINE
CALLING

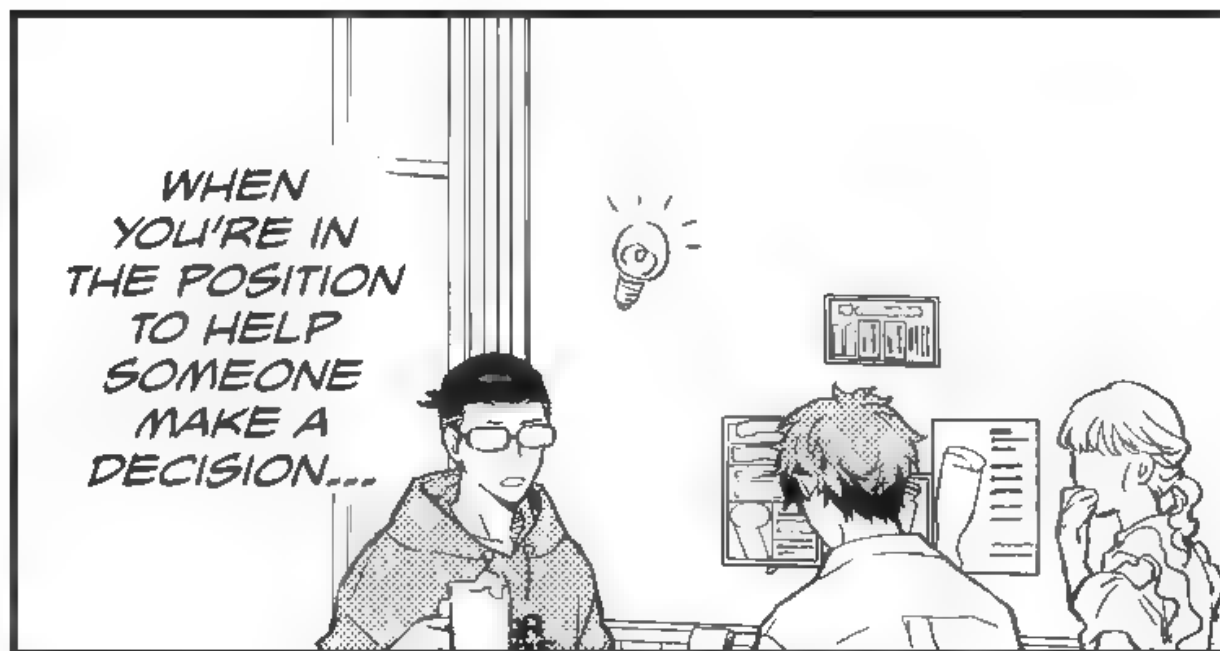


NAH...
I GUESS
IT'S NOT
A BAND
THING,
PER SE.

NOT
SURE
WHAT
IT IS...



AND
YOU
THINK,
HUH...



WHEN
YOU'RE IN
THE POSITION
TO HELP
SOMEONE
MAKE A
DECISION...



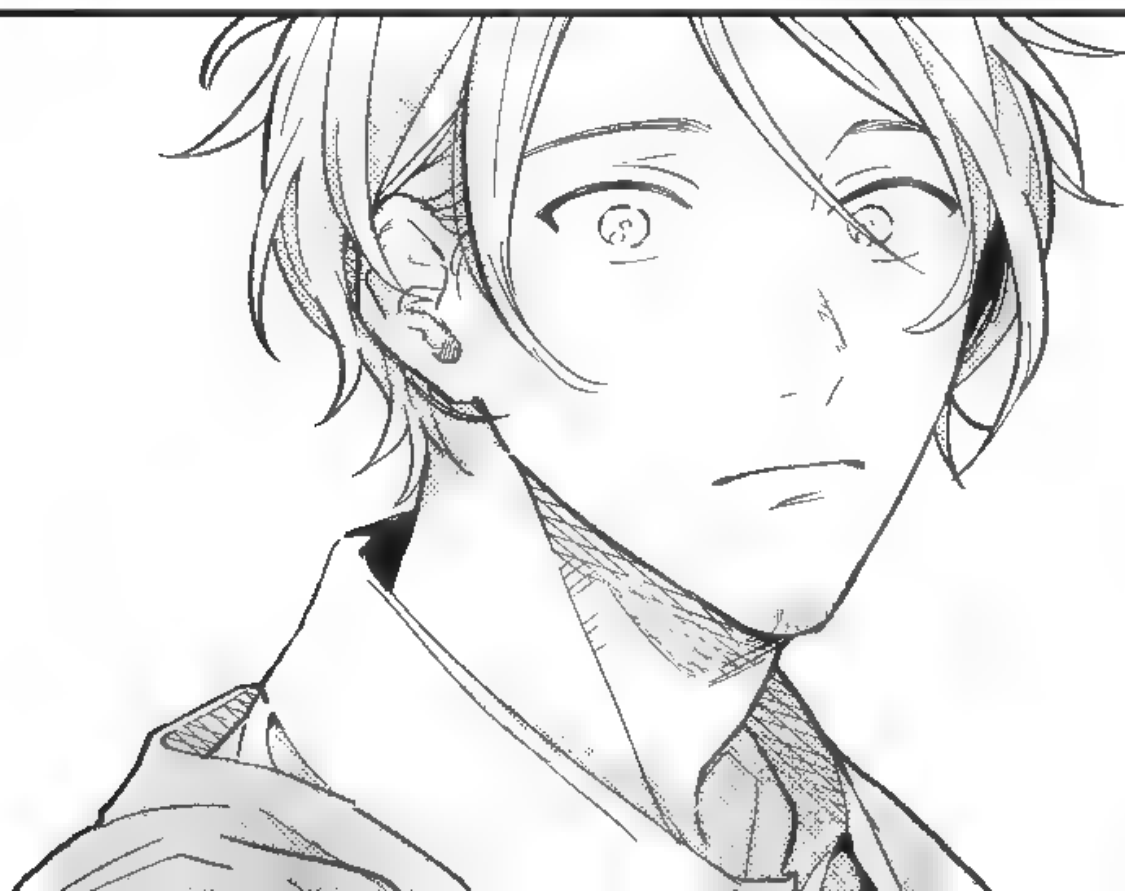
...OR GET
INVOLVED IN
A MAJOR
CHANGE IN
SOMEONE'S
LIFE...



AND
THAT'S
WHEN IT
DAWNS
ON YOU.

SO
THIS
IS WHY
I WAS
PUT
HERE.

...I
SEE...



WE
USUALLY
TAKE A
BACKSEAT
DURING
THOSE
TIMES,
BUT...

....I
KINDA
LIKE
THOSE
MOMENTS.

PERSON-
ALLY...

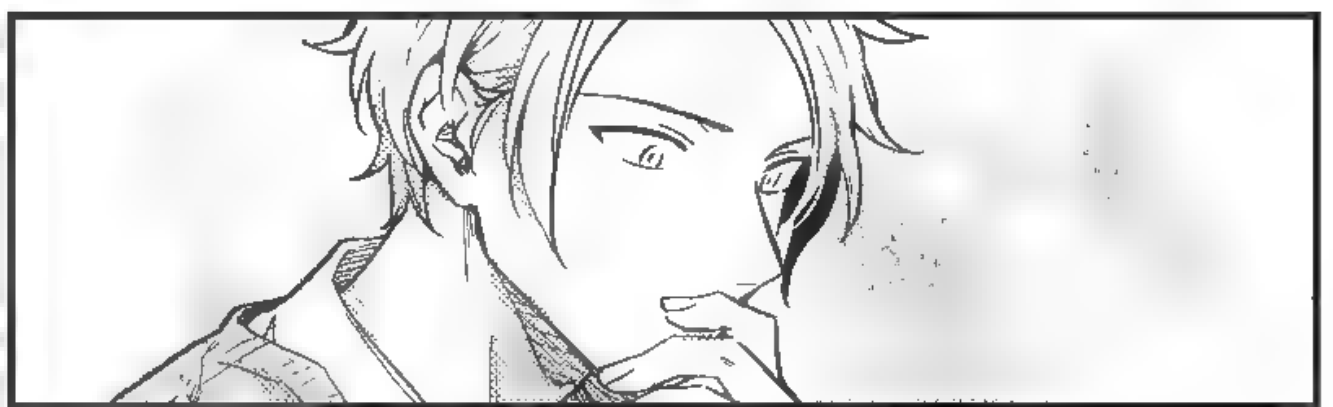


WELL,
MAYBE
THAT WAS
A LITTLE
MELODRA-
MATIC...

...



GO
HAM.



I
MIGHT
HAVE TO
STEAL
THAT...

DAMN,
THAT WAS
SMOOTH.



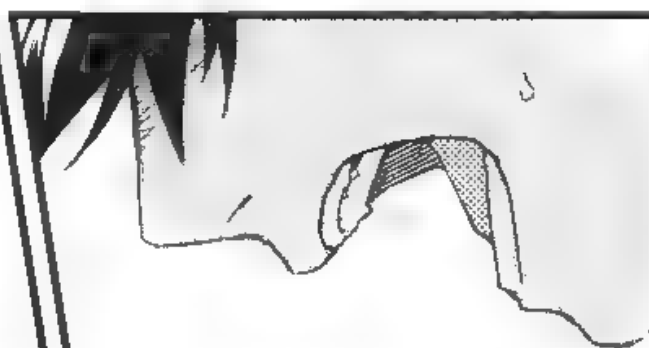
MAYBE
HE'S
RIGHT.



...AND
US...

...AND
YATAKE...

...AND
MAYBE
OTHERS
I DON'T
EVEN
KNOW
ABOUT.



THIS
ENTIRE
TIME,
MAFLUYU
IN
PARTICULAR
HAS BEEN
PUSHED
BY...

...LIENO-
YAMA...



...HE
WAS
LED TO
MUSIC.



SO.

HOW'D
IT GO?
WITH THE
RECORD
LABEL
GUY?

sizzzz







OH...

Well...

...IS
WHAT
HE
SAID.

You're
not
upset?

YOUR
GUITARIST
GOT
POACHED
BY A
FAMOUS
BAND?!

IS
EVERY-
THING
OKAY?



...SO
I'M
IN NO
POSITION
TO TALK.

I WAS
IN A
SIMILAR
SITUATION
LAST
YEAR...

YEAH
?



klak

klak

I GUESS
THAT'S HOW
PEOPLE
WOULD
NORMALLY
REACT.



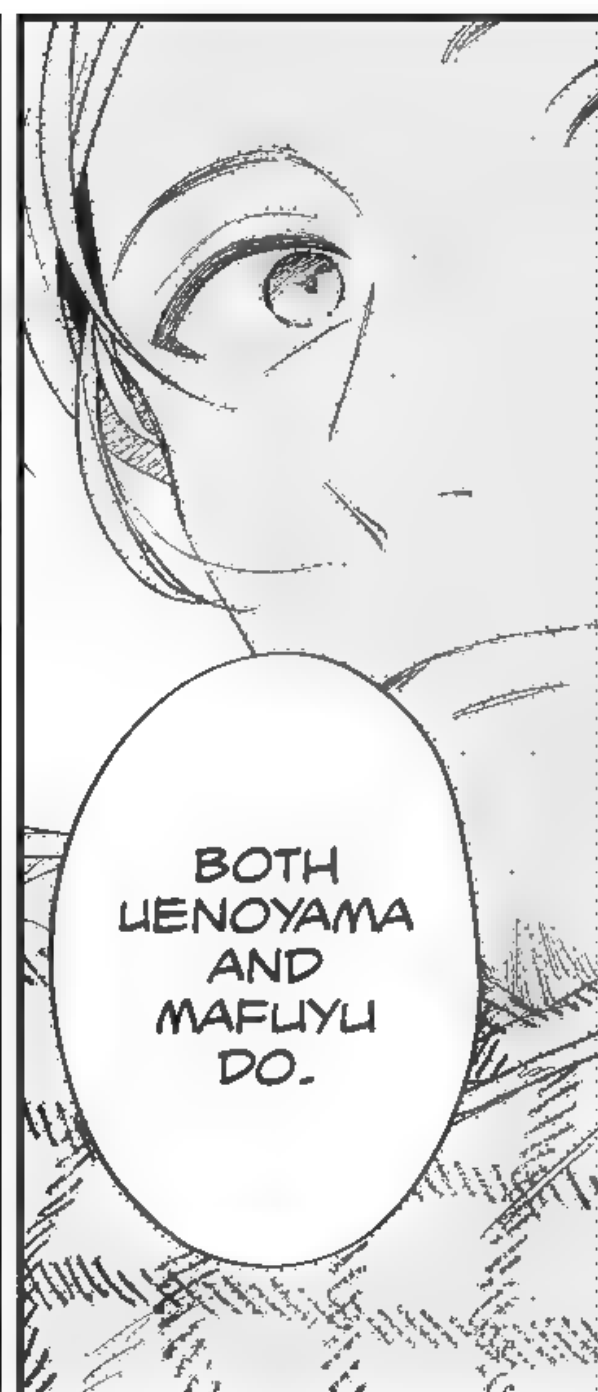
AKIHIKO
...

WHAT'S
YOUR
TAKE?





GUESS
THAT'S
MY
TAKE?



BOTH
LIENOYAMA
AND
MAFLUYU
DO.



YOU
SURE
HAVE
GOTTEN
GOOD AT
MAKING
FRIED
RICE...

I've had
some
practice.



Is this
to your
liking,
sir?



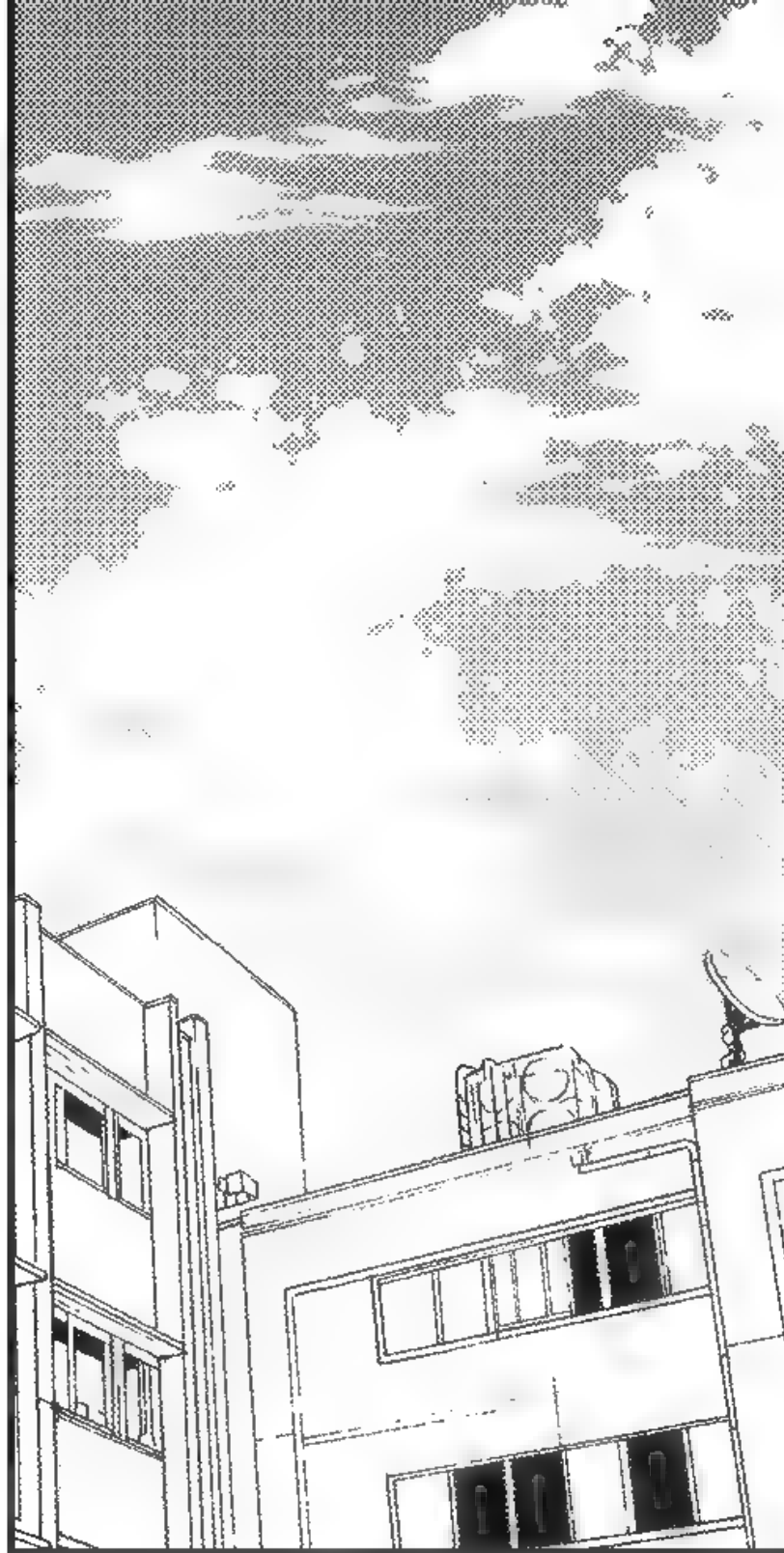
THIS
KIND OF
FEELS
IN LINE
WITH WHAT
YACCHAN
SAID...

Wow...

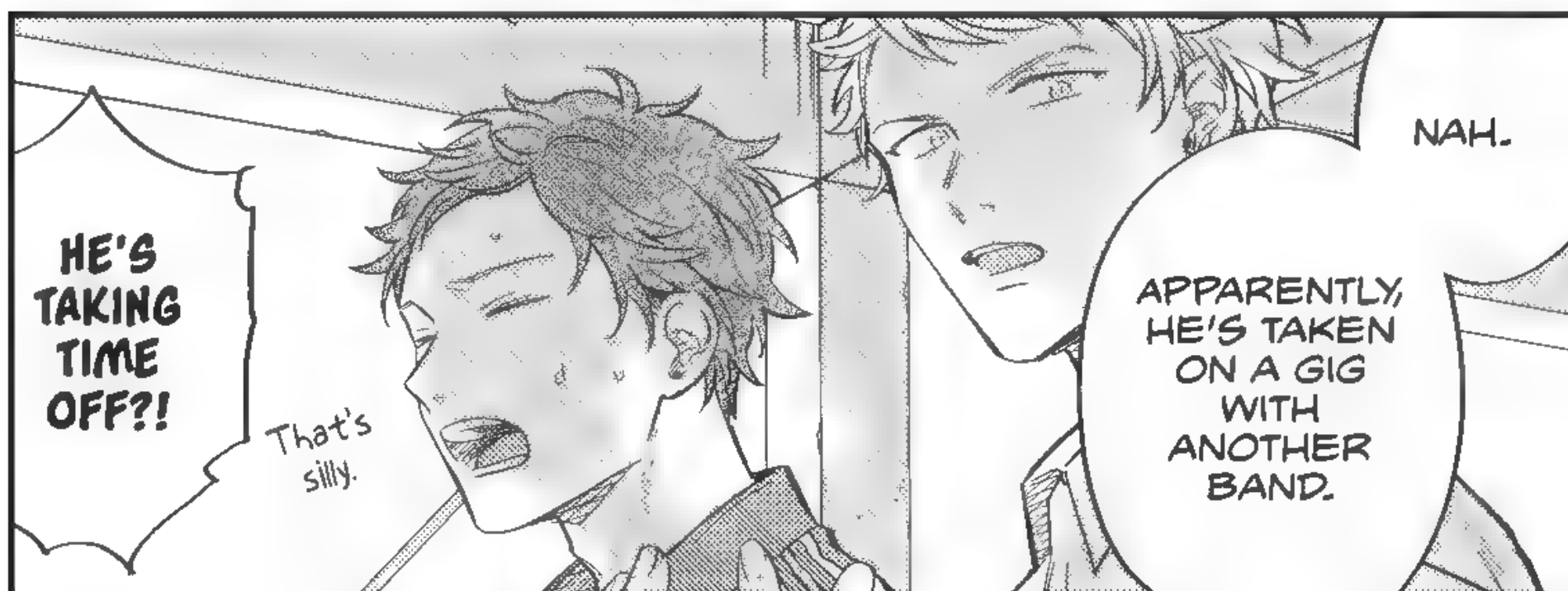


HUH?

BING
BONG



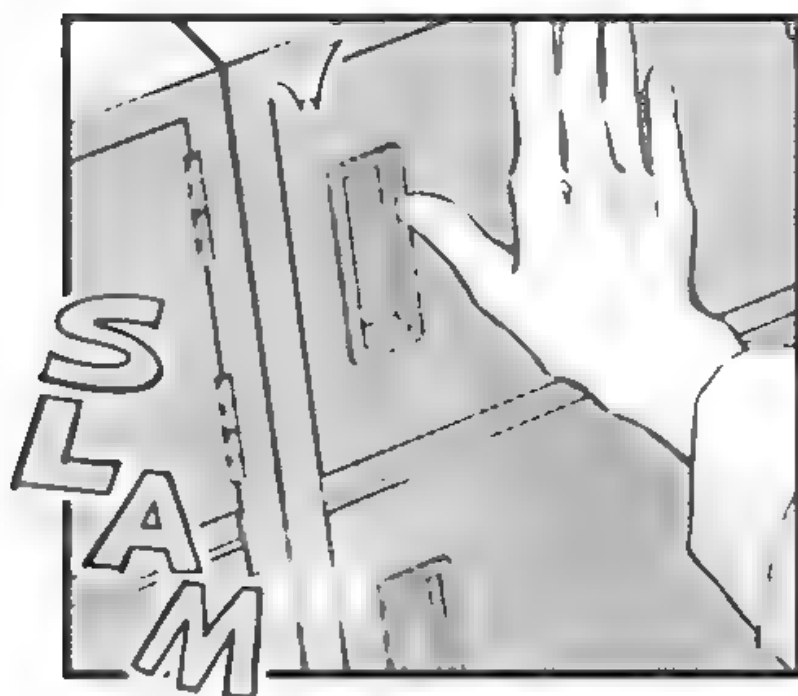
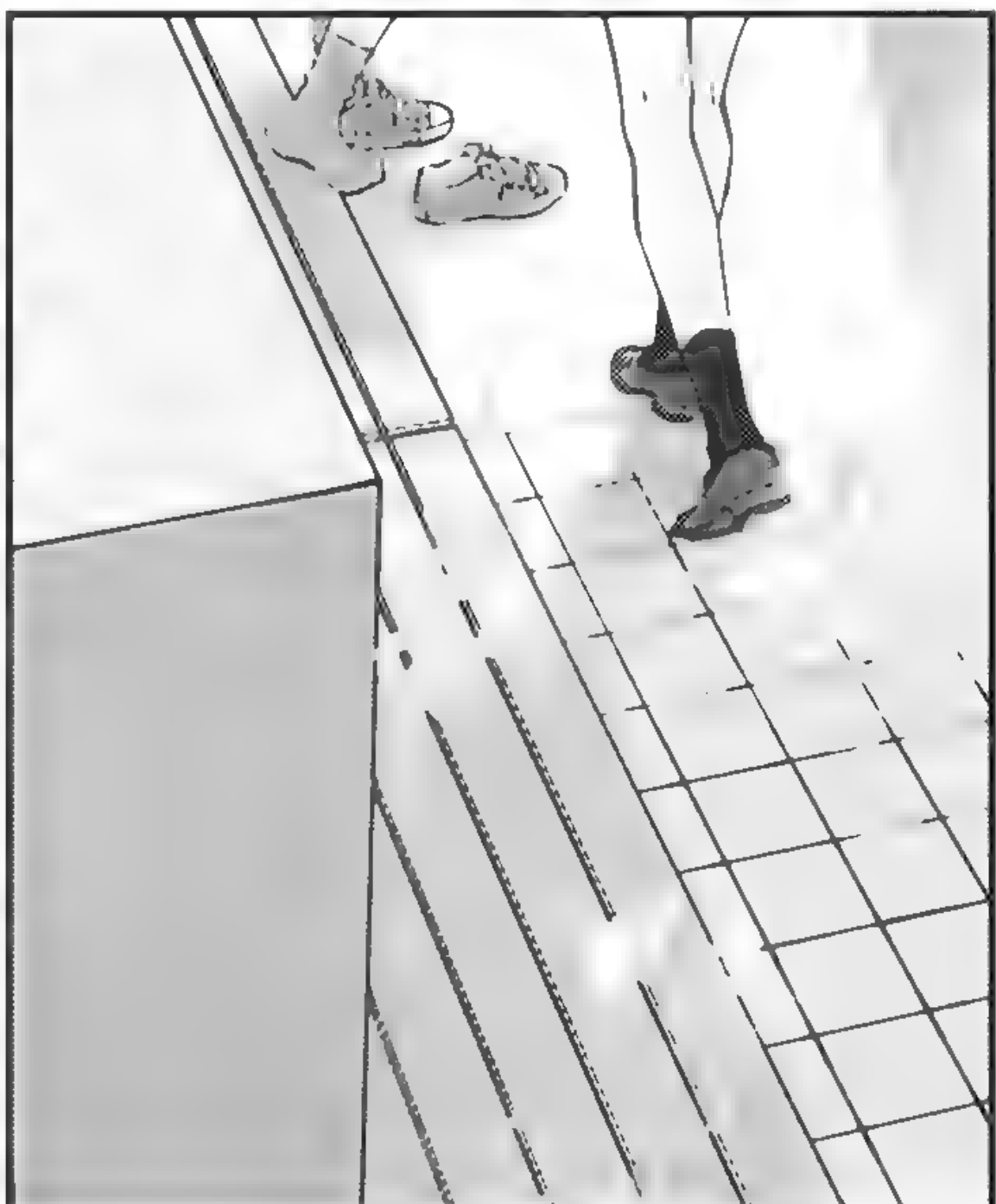
WHERE'S
UENOYAMA
TODAY?





g i v e n

by Natsuki Kizu



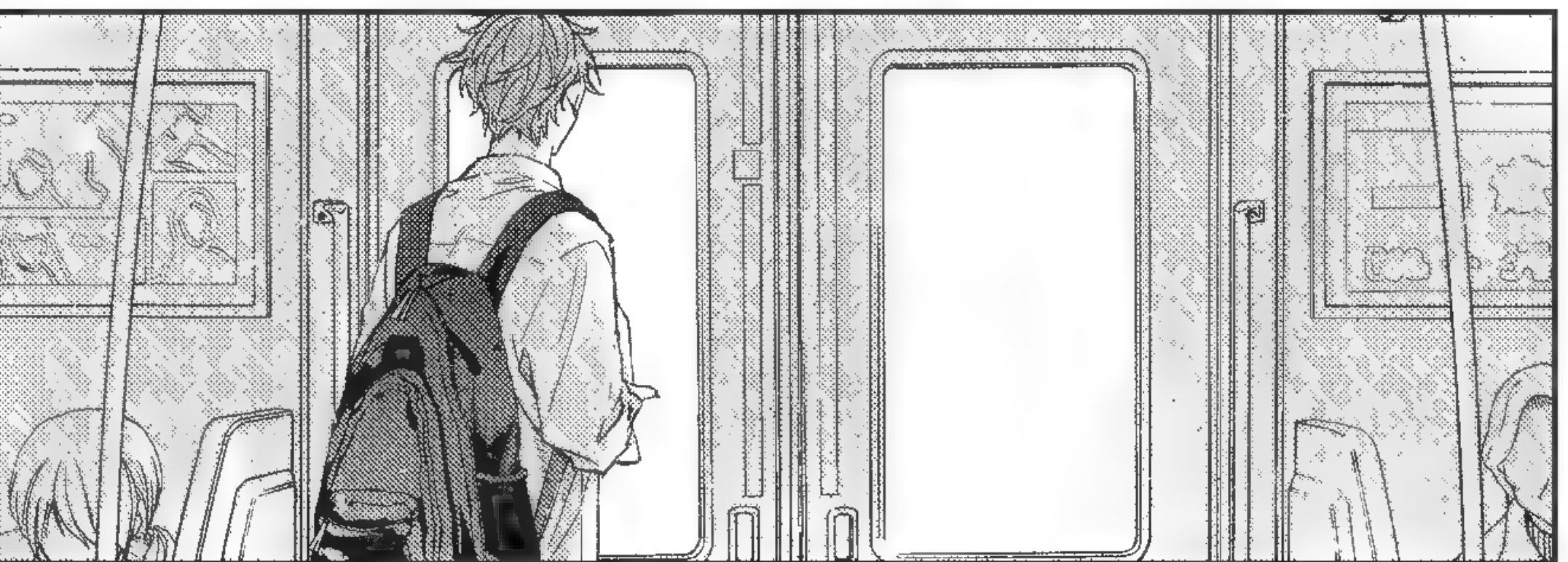
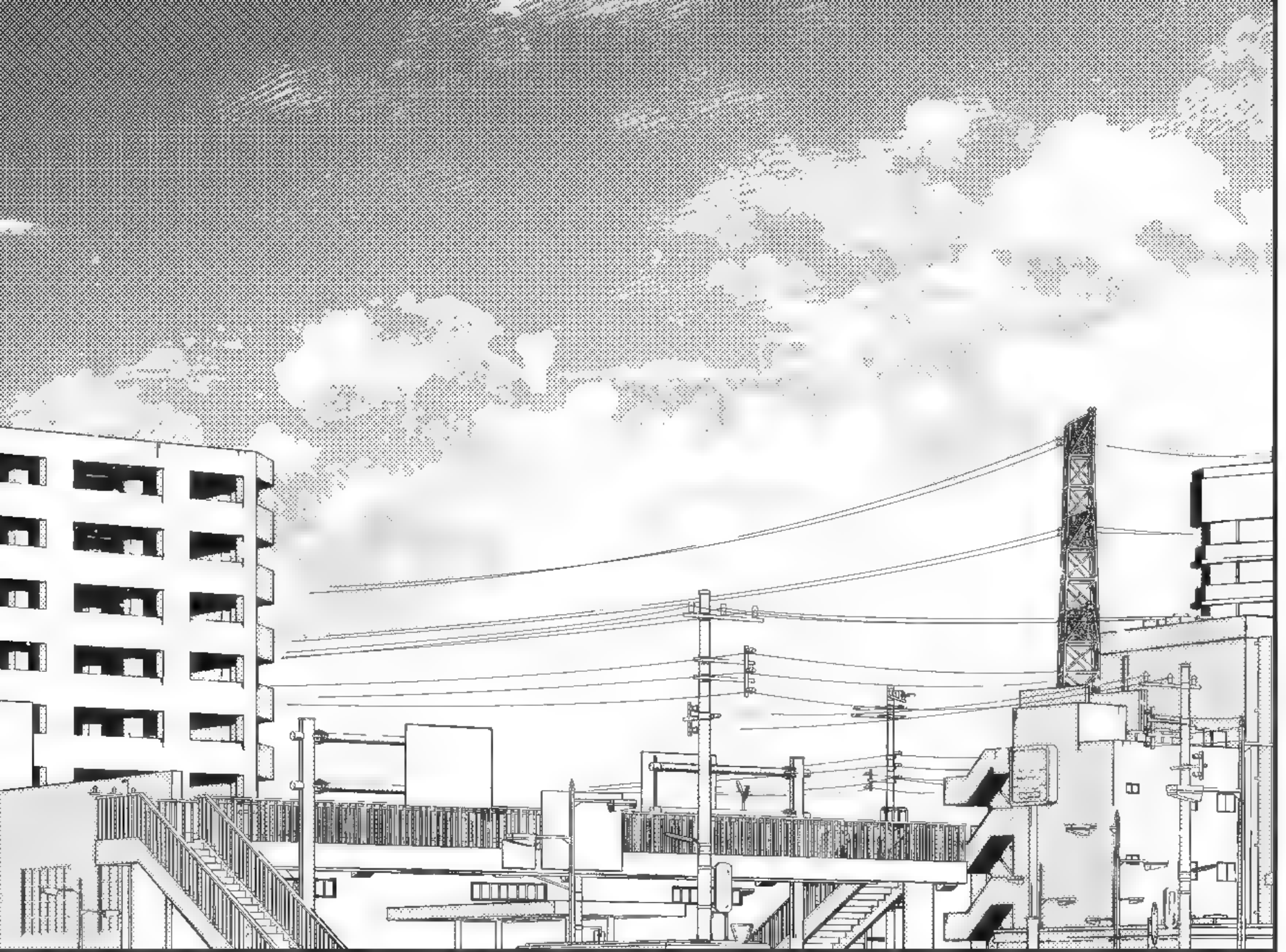


Hiragi Mix 17

given

given

by Natsuki Kizu





ka-
chak



Hff



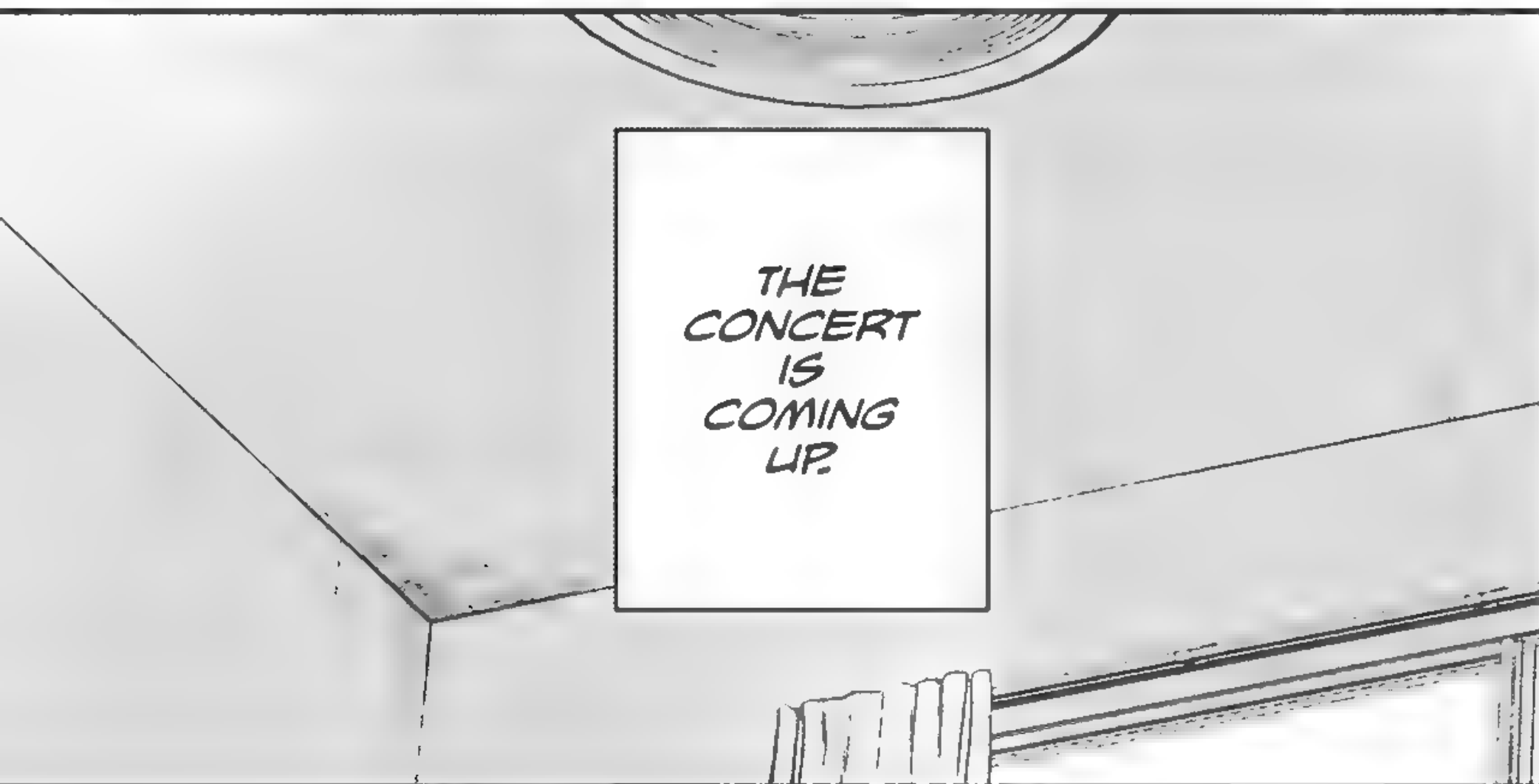
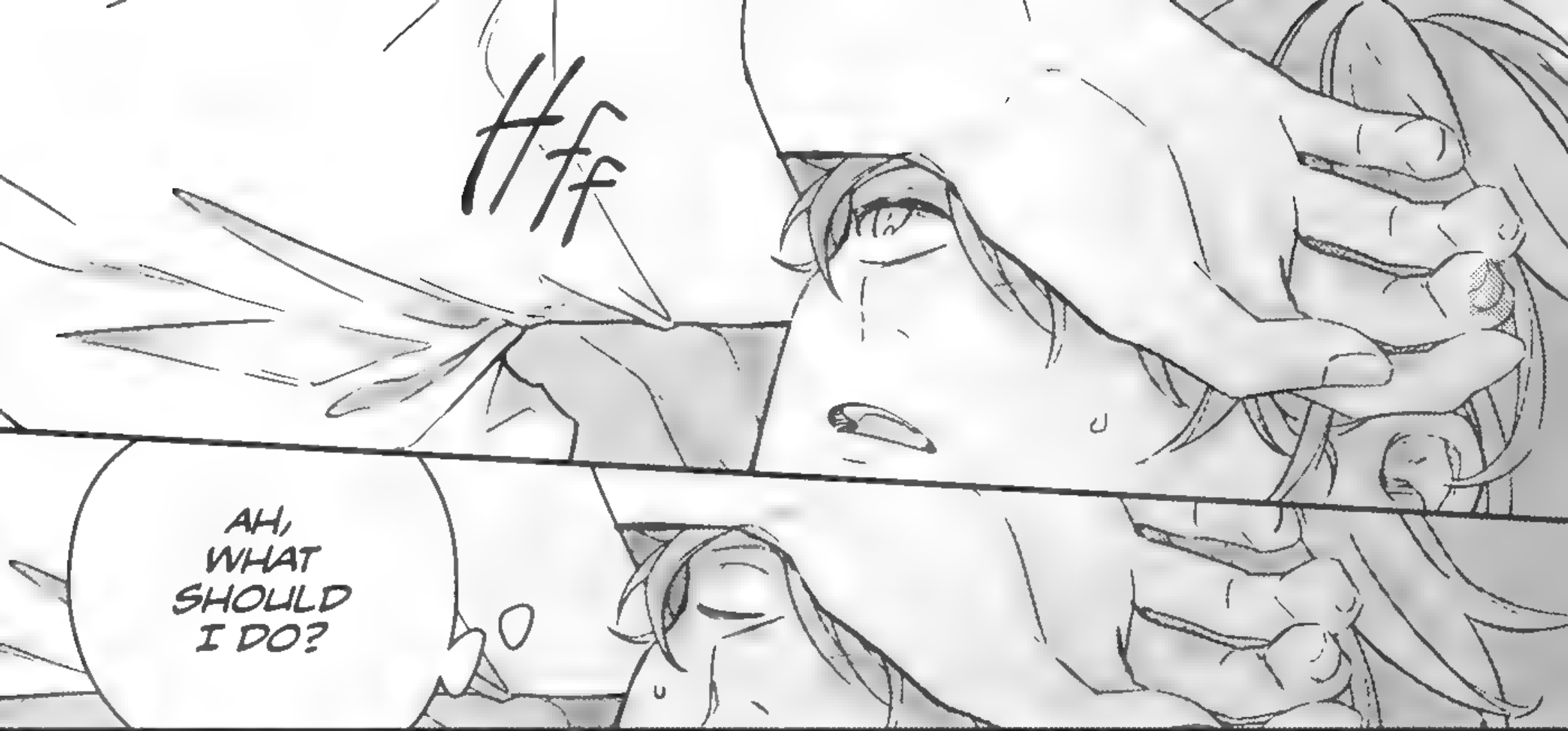
fwu
m
P



I'M
HOME.



kree





WHY
DID I
LOOK
AWAY
BACK
THEN?

BUT
WHY?



EVEN I
DON'T
KNOW
WHAT
I WANT.

I'M
ALWAYS
SLOWER
THAN
EVERYONE
ELSE AT
GETTING MY
THOUGHTS
IN ORDER.

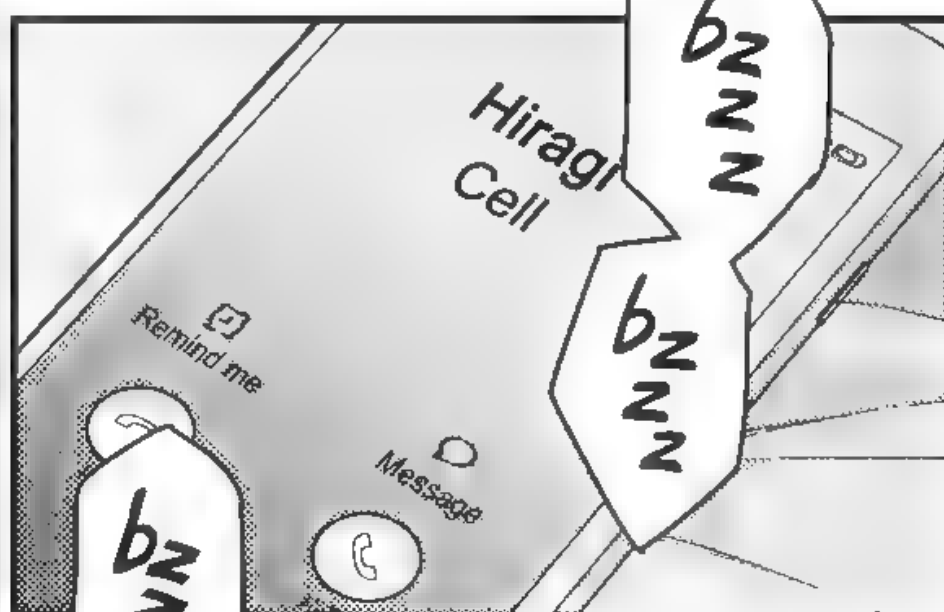
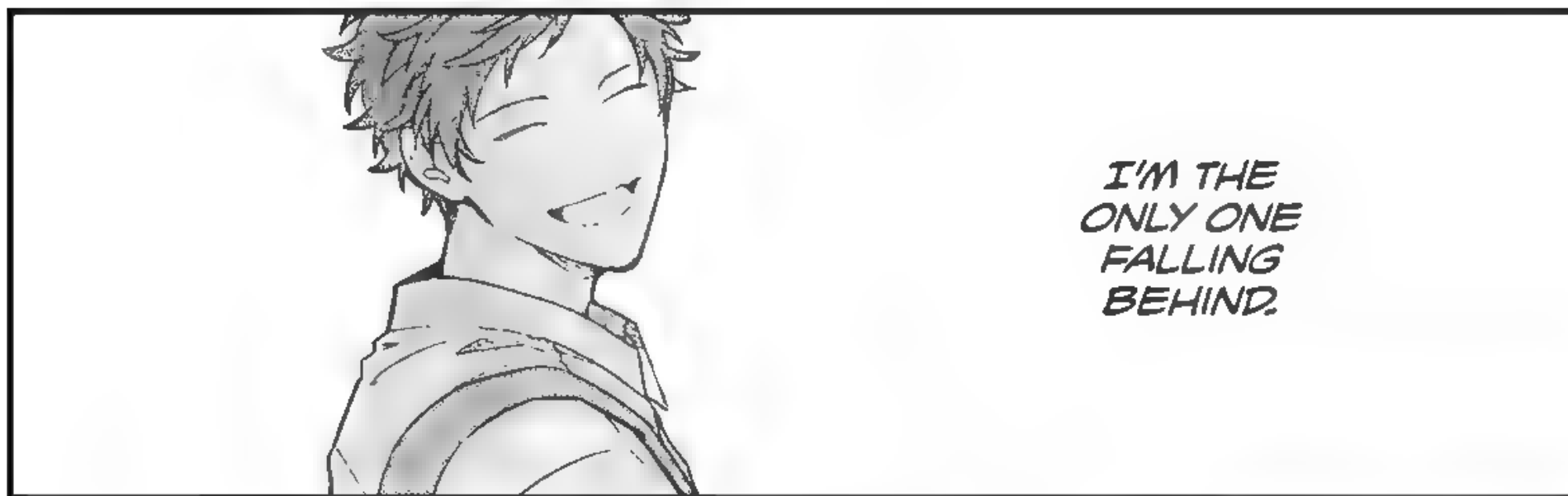
...THAT
UENOYAMA
ASKED
ME TO
COME.

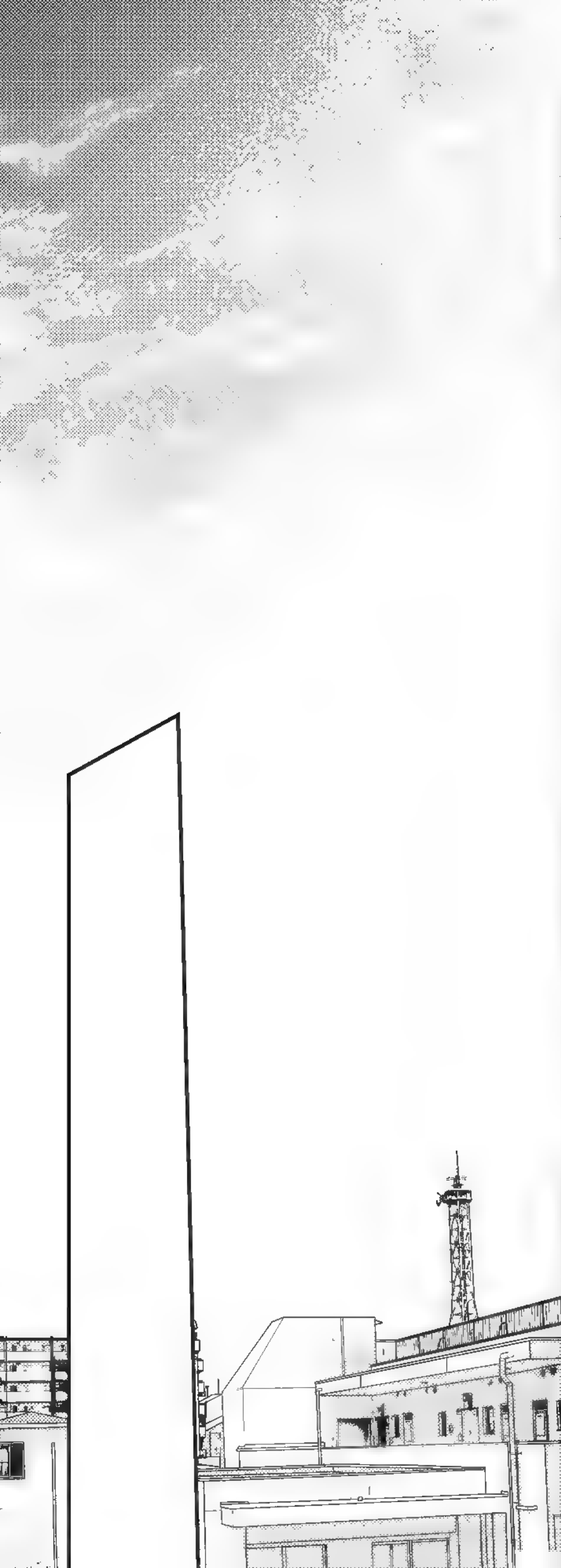
EVEN
THOUGH
SOME-
WHERE
INSIDE,
I REALLY
AM
HAPPY...



OR
DON'T
I?

DO I
WANNA
GO?



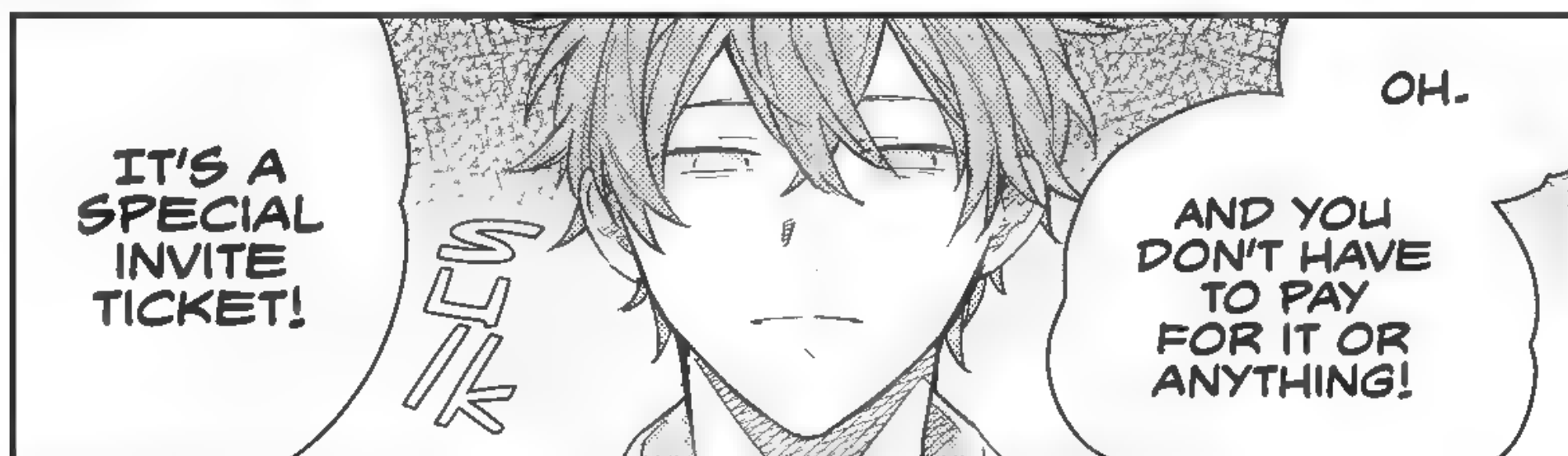


LET'S
HANG
OUT.



ONE
CONCERT
TICKET.

HERE!



IT'S A
SPECIAL
INVITE
TICKET!

SLIK

OH.

AND YOU
DON'T HAVE
TO PAY
FOR IT OR
ANYTHING!



...A
LITTLE
LATE
TO BE
TELLING
YOU THIS,
BUT...

ALSO...

IT'S
KINDA
...

THANK...
YOU...

DON'T
EVEN
MENTION
IT!

...



...LIENO-
YAMA
TO ME.

THANKS
...
...FOR
LENDING
...



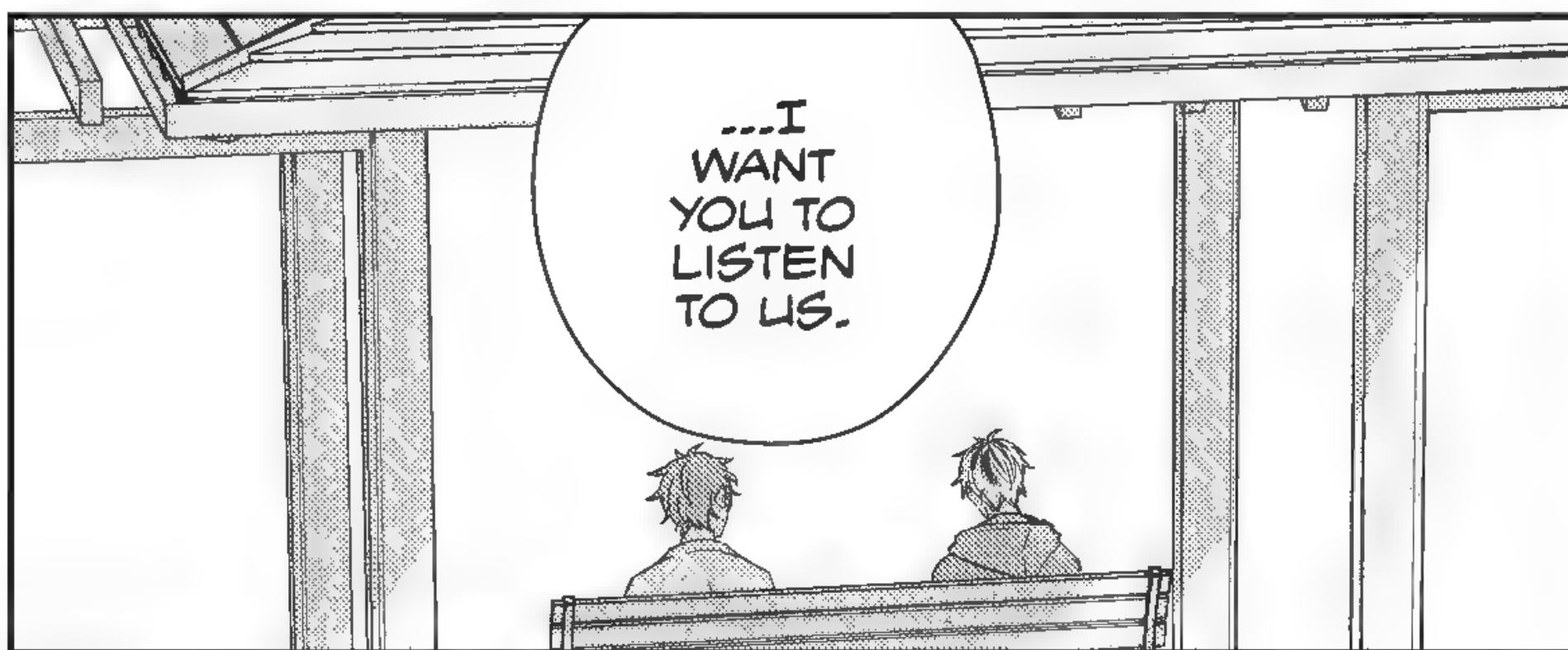
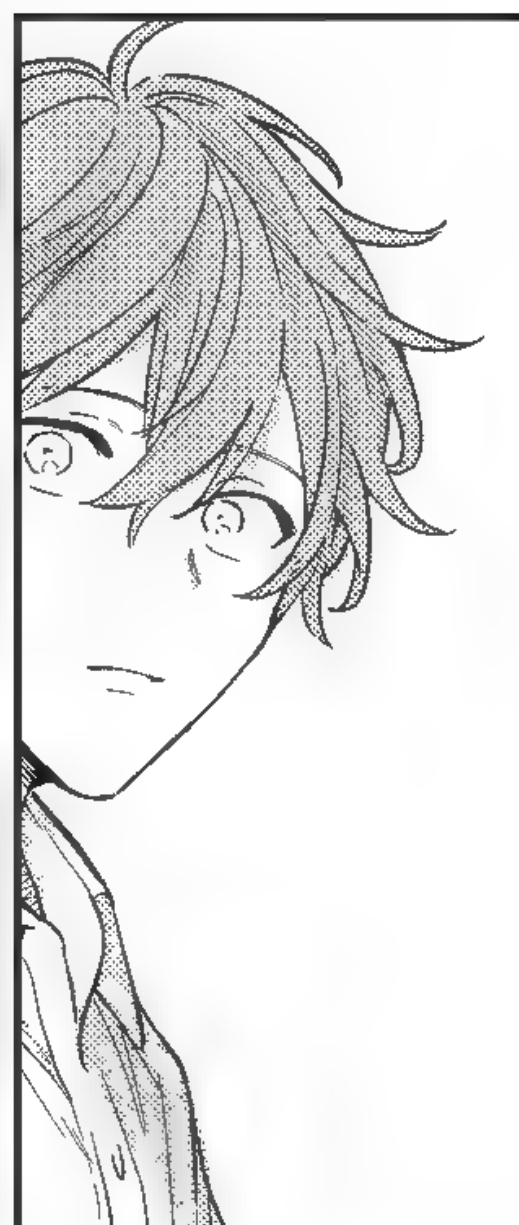
...WHICH
MUST'VE
SUCKED
FOR YOU.

I KNOW
I'VE KEPT
AN IRON
GRIP ON
HIM THESE
LAST TWO
WEEKS...





AND
YEAH,
IT WAS
ALL MY
EGO,
BUT...



...I
WANT
YOU TO
LISTEN
TO US.



FOR
ME.

!





...WE START
DRESS
REHEARSALS,
WHICH IS
BASICALLY
LIKE THE REAL
DEAL...

TOMORROW'S
WHEN...

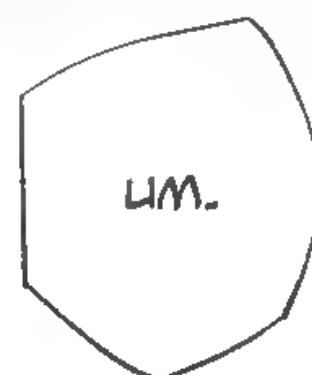
...AND I'M
TERRIFIED!



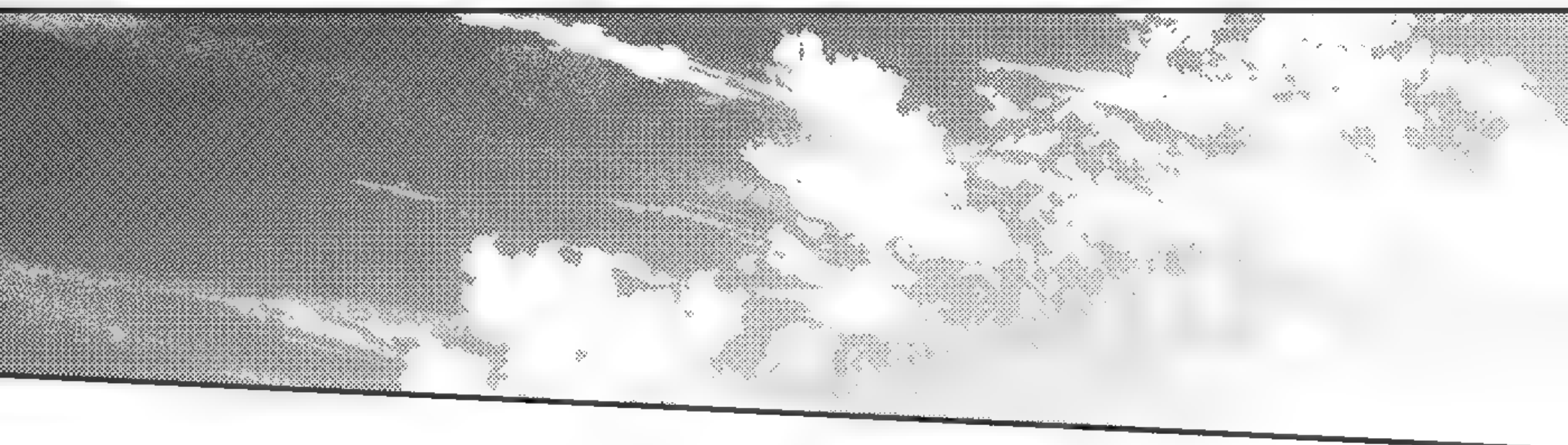
SO
C'MON,
SAY
SOMETHING
TO CHEER
ME ON!

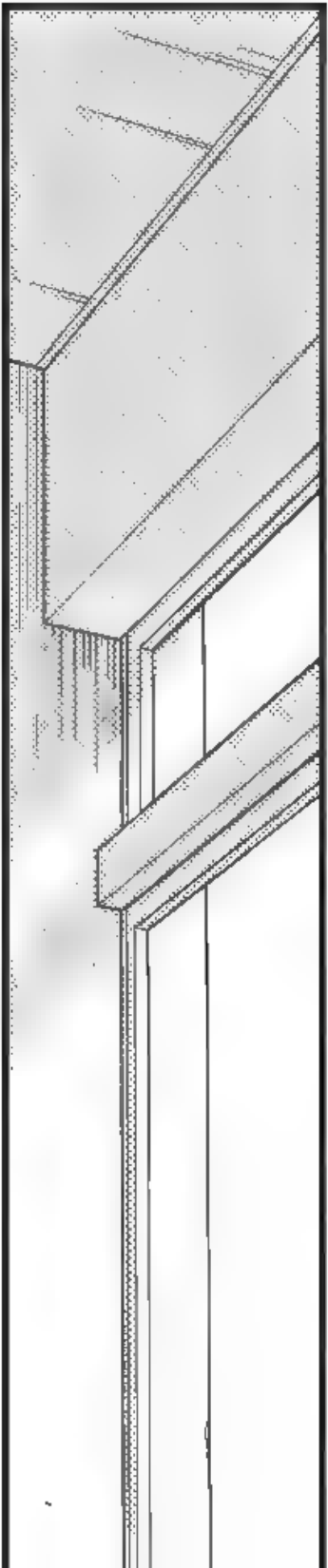


...



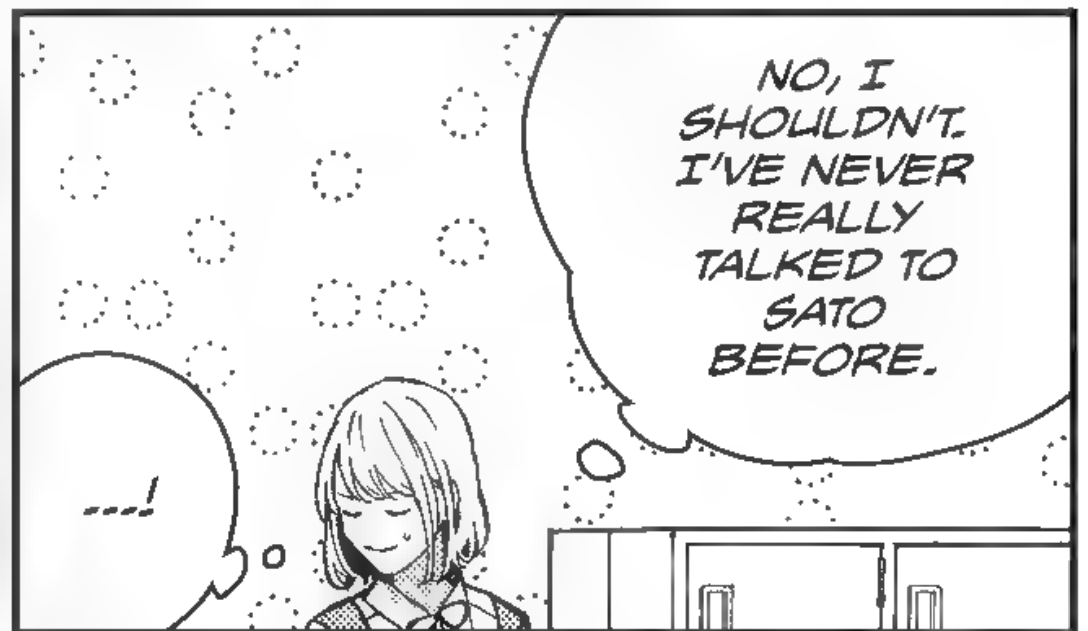
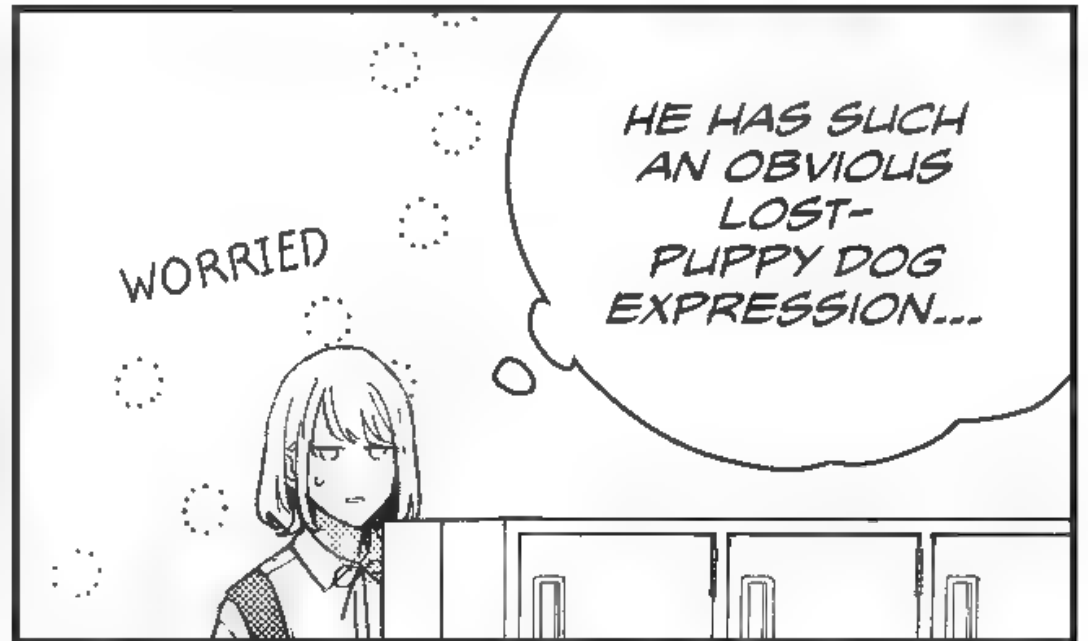
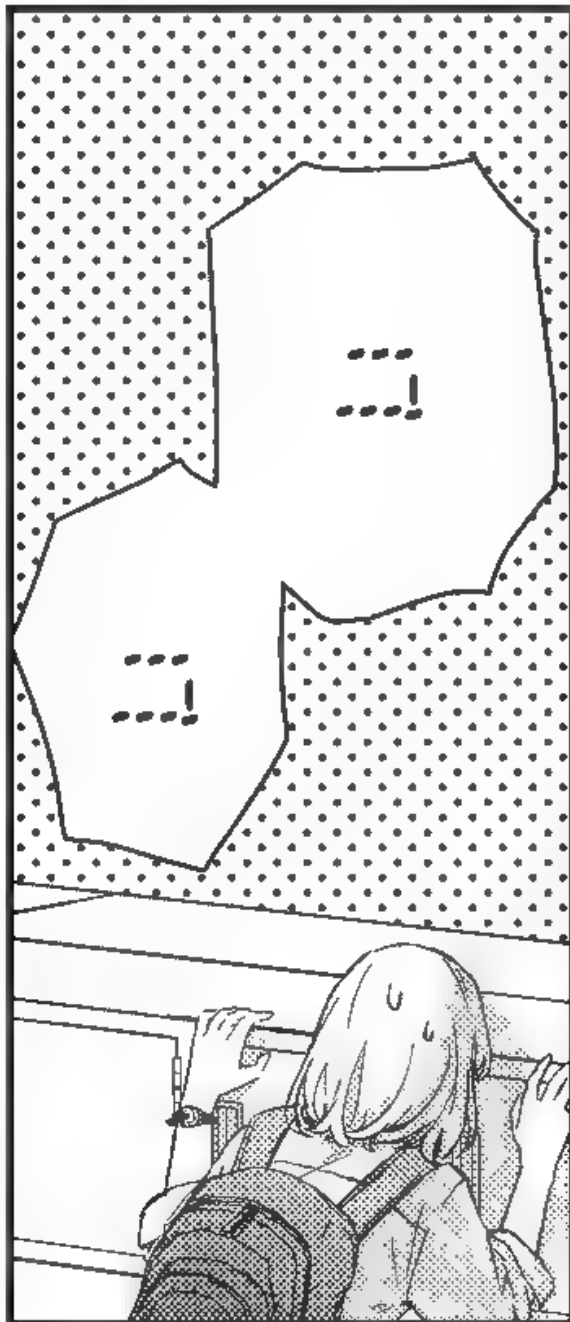


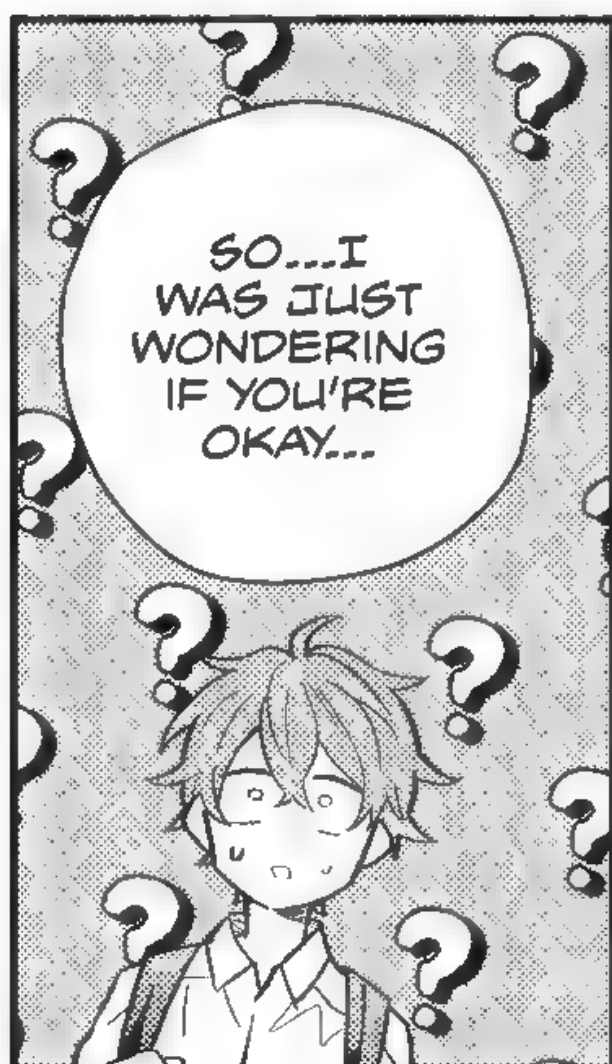






SATO.









What's
with the
surprise?

I'M
STILL
THINKING
ABOUT
IT TOO.

REALLY
?

THAT'S
NORMAL.

NOR-
MAL.

...!

HE'S
PRETTY
ENTER-
TAINING.

OH.

REAL-
IZATION

Let's
GO PRO!

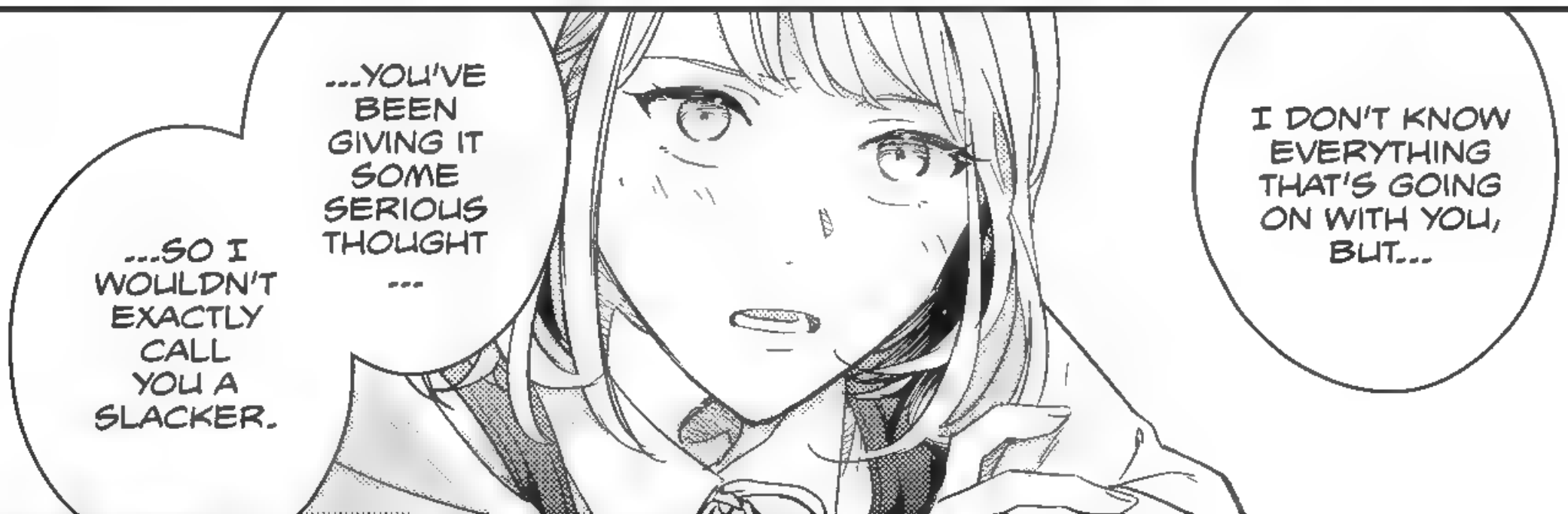
LIENOYAMA
AND...

...ITAYA
AREN'T
THE
NORM.

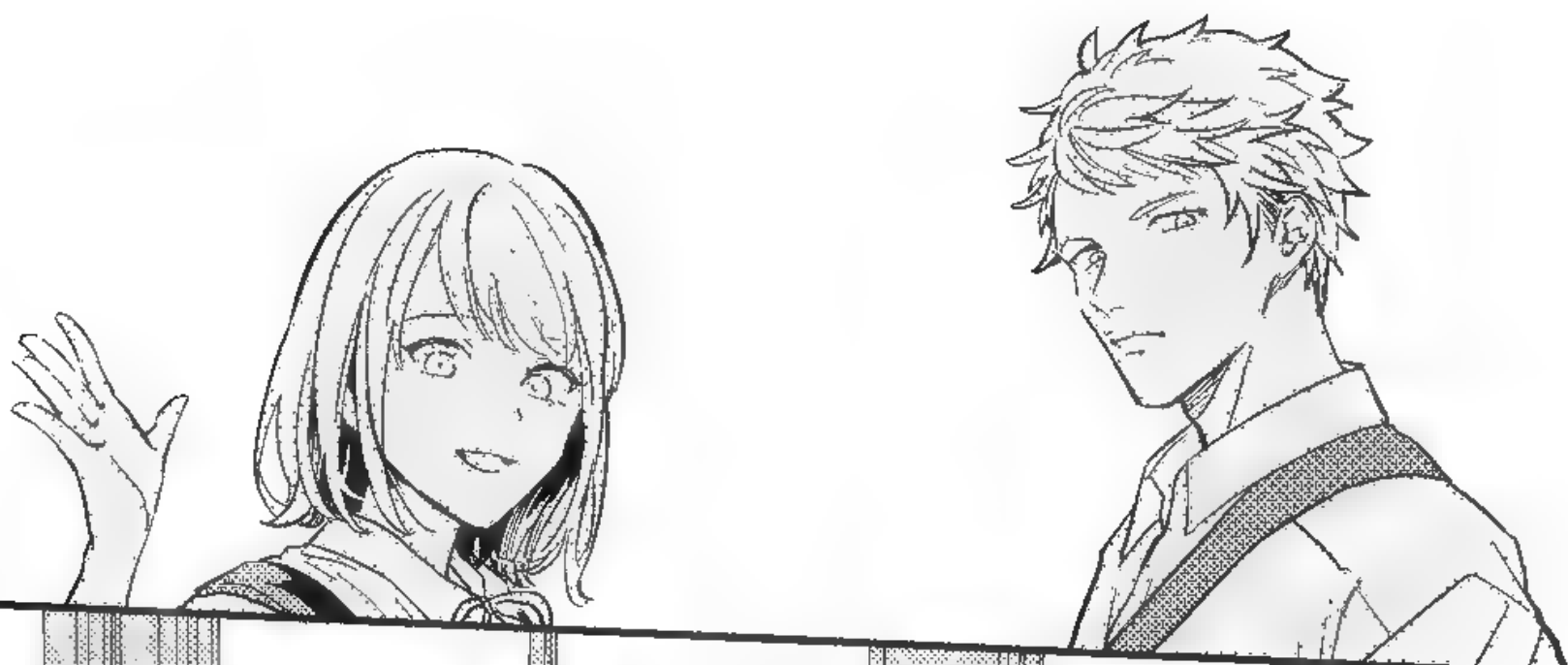
Wanna
GO PRO?!

DID YOU
GET INTO
A SPAT
OVER
GOING PRO
OR NOT?

WAIT...
IS THAT WHY
YOU'RE
FIGHTING?

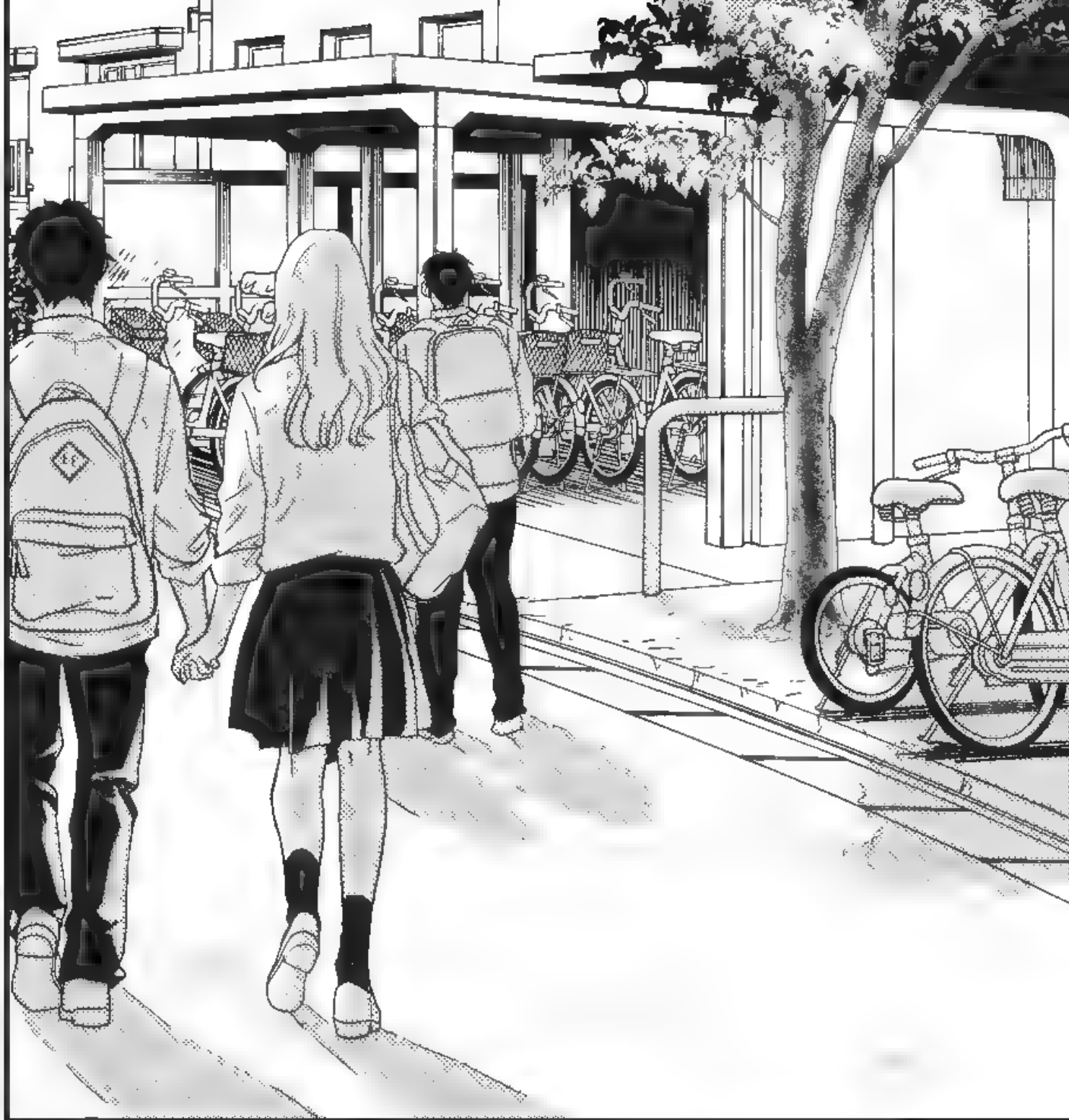


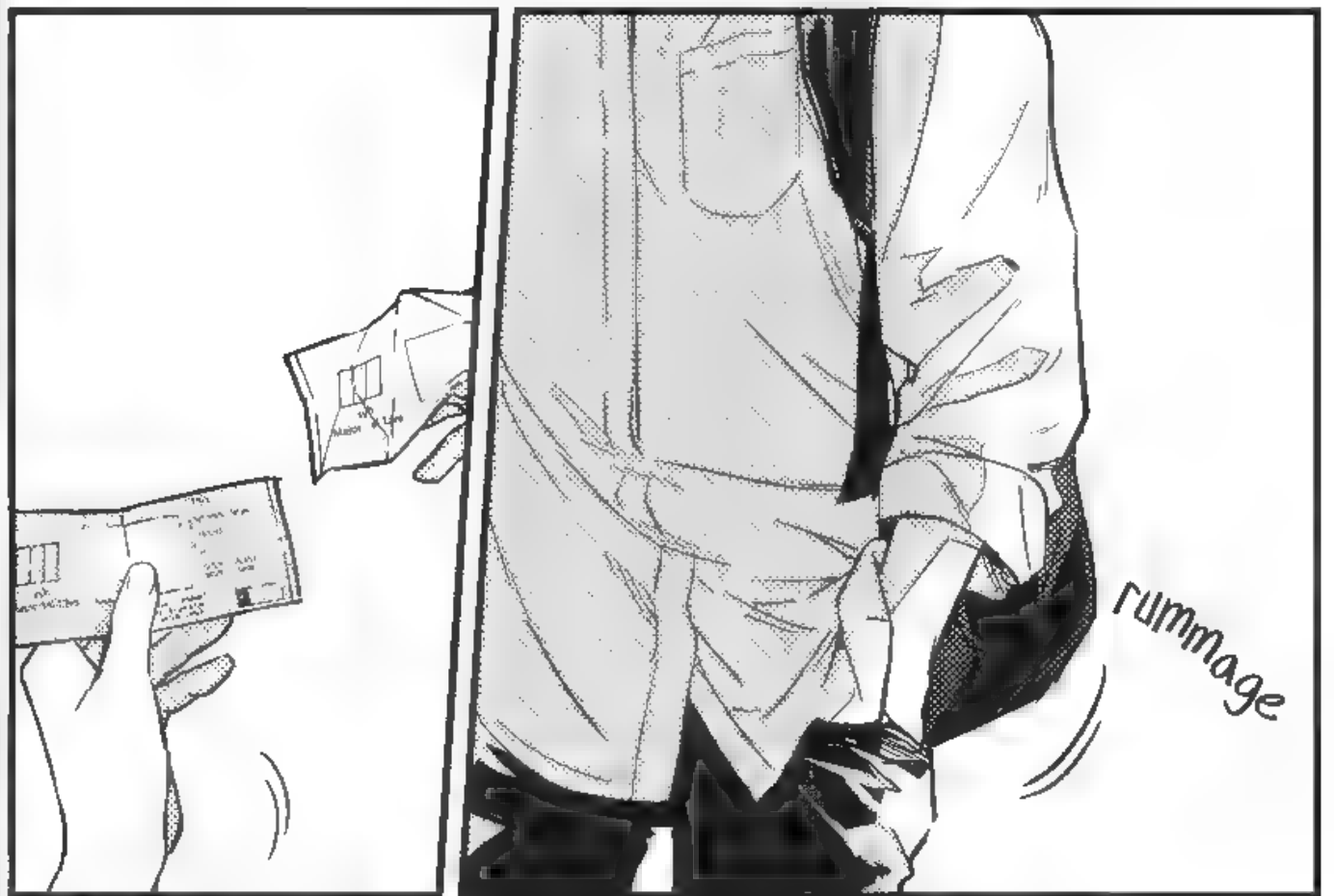
...BUT WHY
DON'T
YOU JUST
GO FOR IT
BEFORE
THINKING
ANYMORE
ABOUT IT.



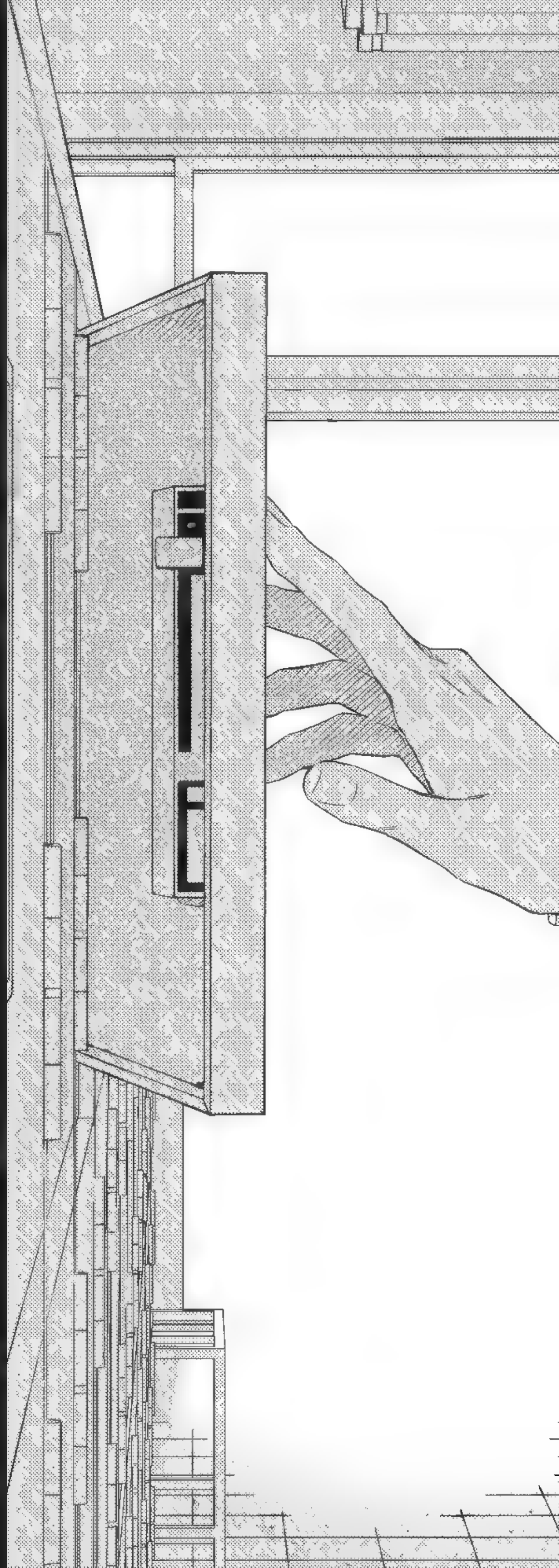
IT'LL
TURN OUT
BETTER
THAN YOU
THINK.





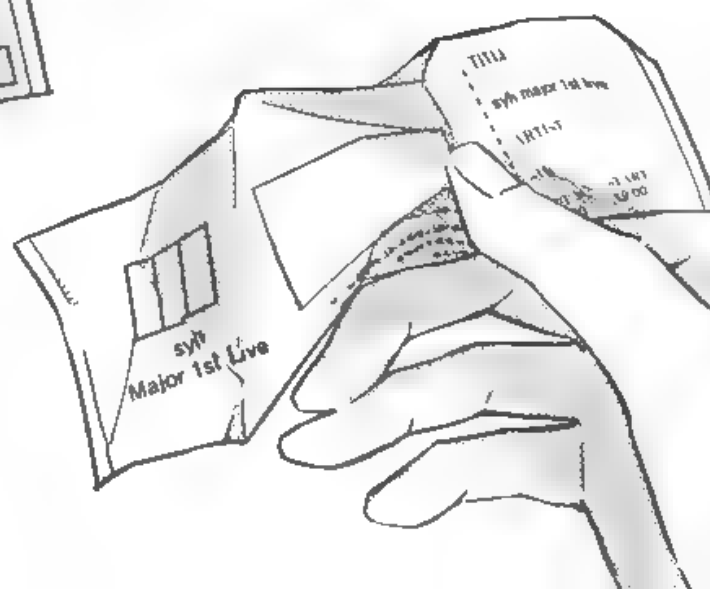
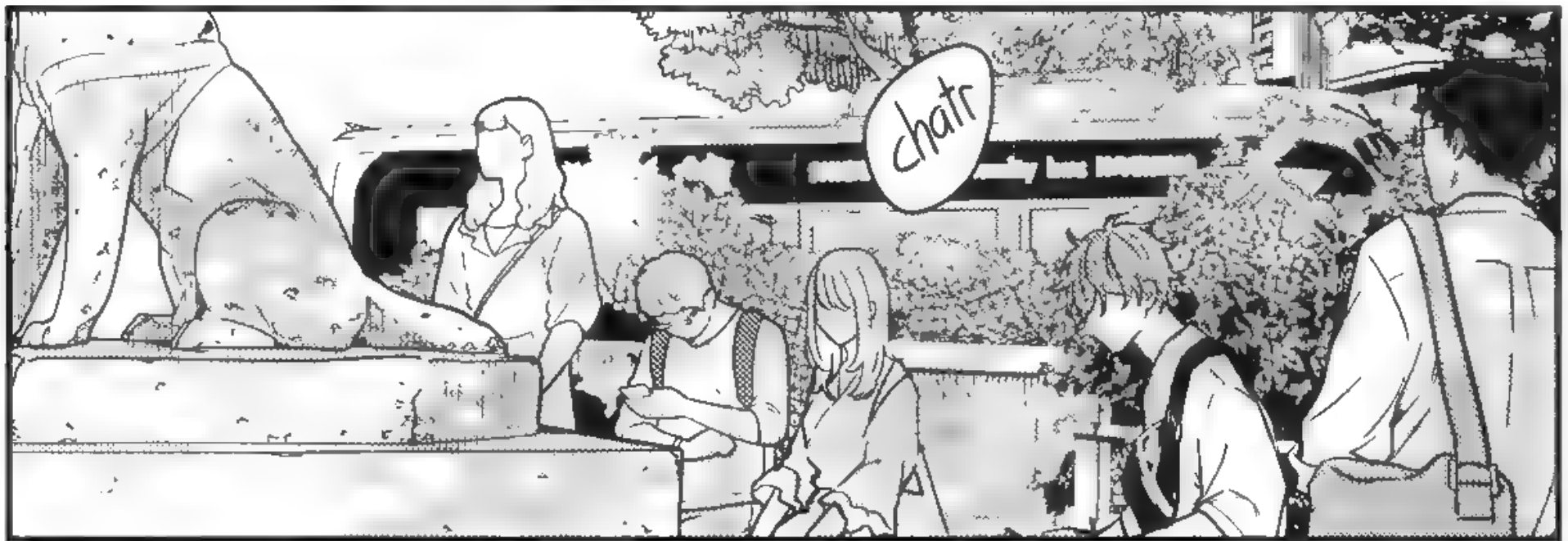


ka
chak



*DAY
OF THE
CONCERT...*







I MADE
IT TO THE
STATION,
BUT...

SHE
SAID IT'LL
TURN OUT
BETTER
THAN I
THINK.



UH?



HUH?



THE
KID
WITH
THE
SONG.

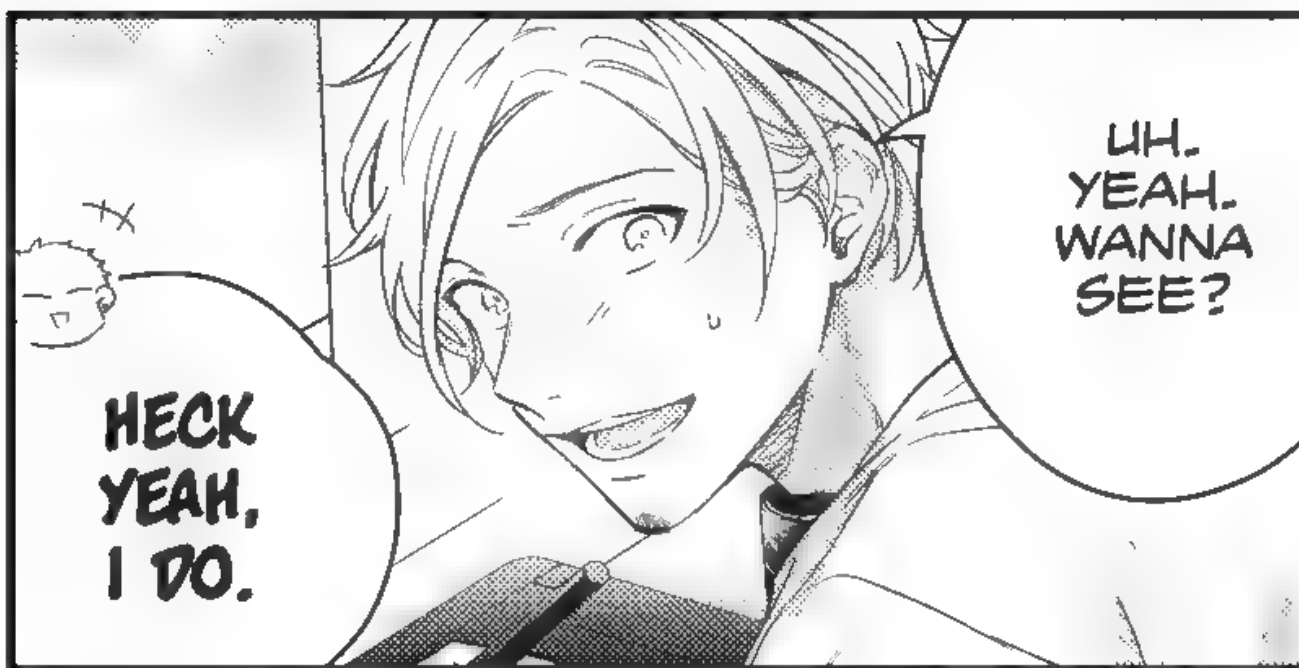
UGETSU?

To Be Continued...

given

by Natsuki Kizu

Hanaoka and Akihiko, Part 1



Hanaoka and Akihiko, Part 2



A Scrimper's Pride



The Bright Type
Hiragi






given

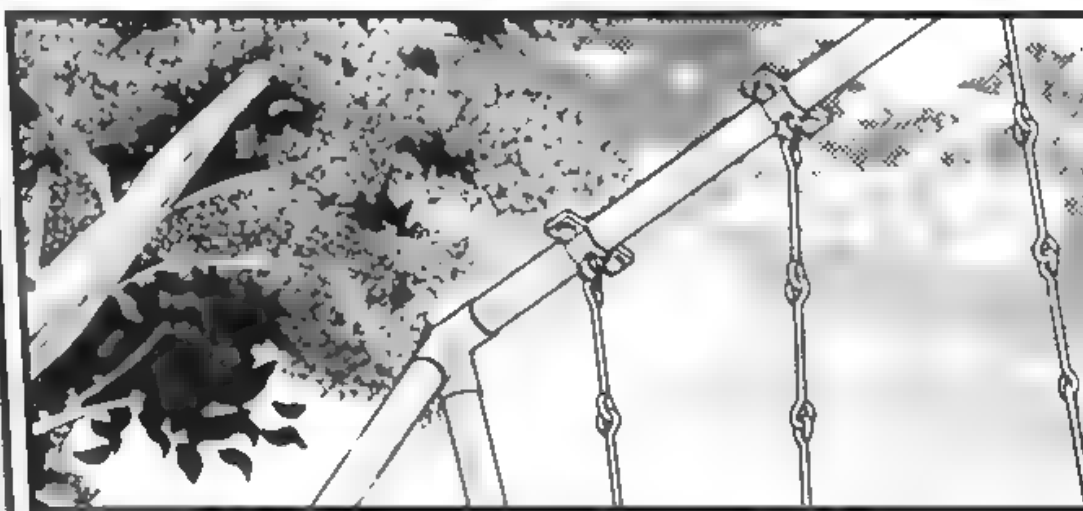
by Natsuki Kizu

given

by Natsuki Kizu



THE LARVA
LIQUEFIES
TEMPORARILY
WITHIN THE
CHRYSALIS.





NEXT
UP
ON THE
NEWS...

BREAKFAST
IS READY,
SO WIPE THE
TABLE.

OKAY.

News
Flash
Jg



OH,
GOOD
MORNING.

MORN-
ING.



...

AT THE
INTERNATIONAL
TCHAIKOVSKY
COMPETITION
HELD IN
MOSCOW...



...YOUNG
JAPANESE
VIOLINIST
UGETSU
MURATA
HAS WON
FIRST
PLACE.





...IT
LOSES
THE
ABILITY
TO
MOVE.



zzz



bzz



BUT
DESPITE
ITS OUTER
APPEAR-
ANCE...



ONCE
THE LARVA
BECOMES
A
CHRYSLIS...

bzz





...INSIDE
ITS SHELL,
IT DEVOTES
ITSELF
WITH GREAT
ZEAL TO
REMAKING
ITS BODY.



AT FIRST
GLANCE,
IT MAY
APPEAR
TO BE
UNREMARKABLE
GOO...

THE
LARVA'S
LEGS...

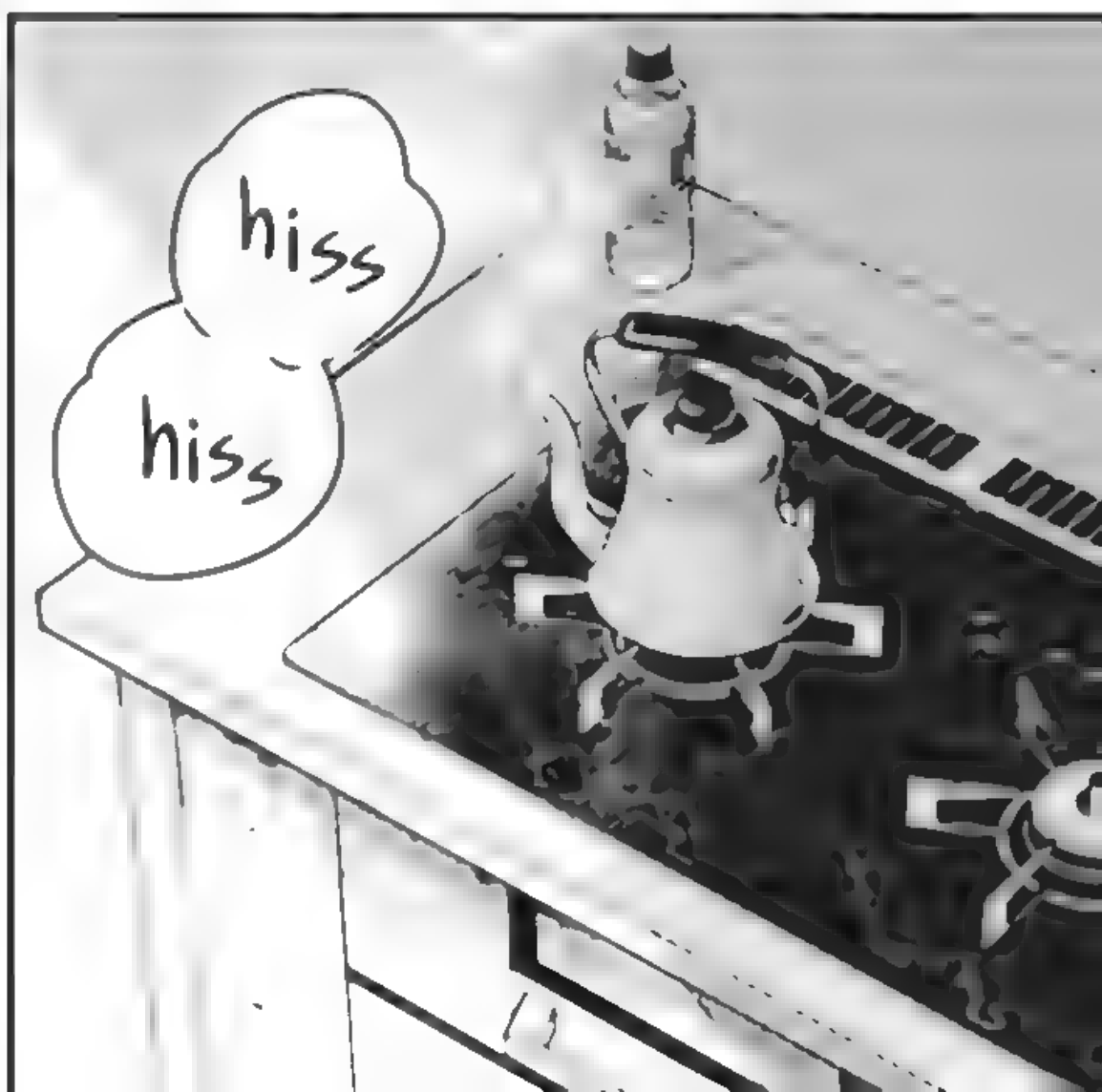
...COME
APART
AND
MELT
WITHIN
THE
CHRYSALIS.

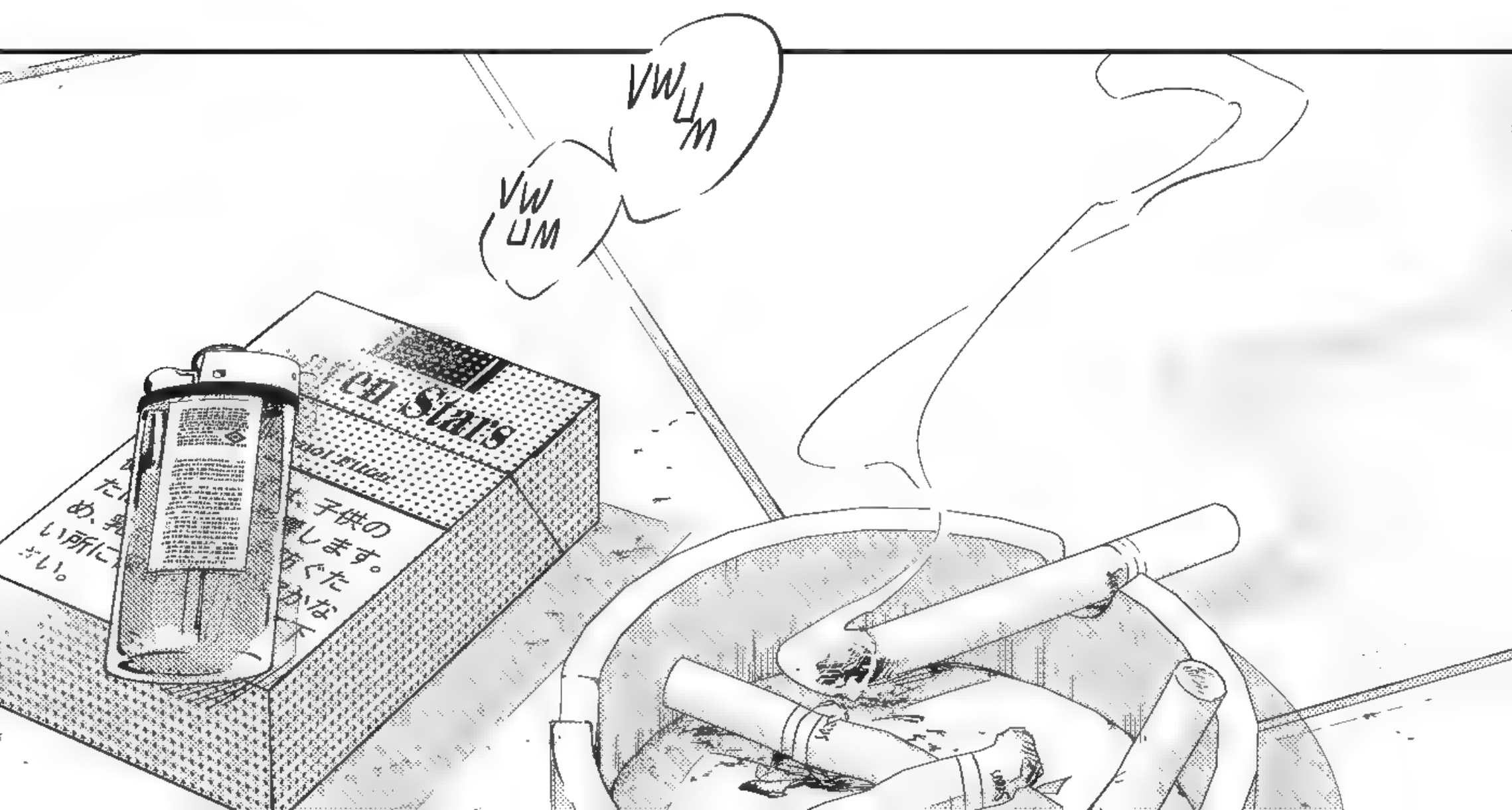


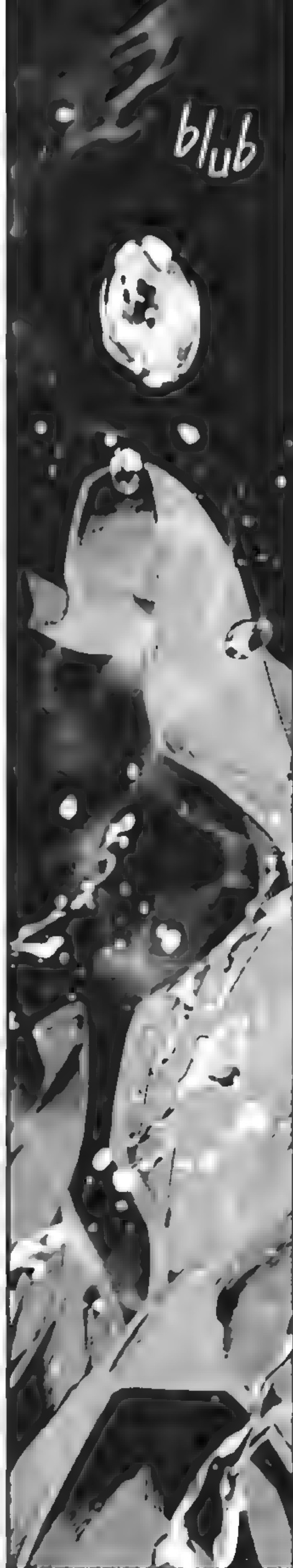
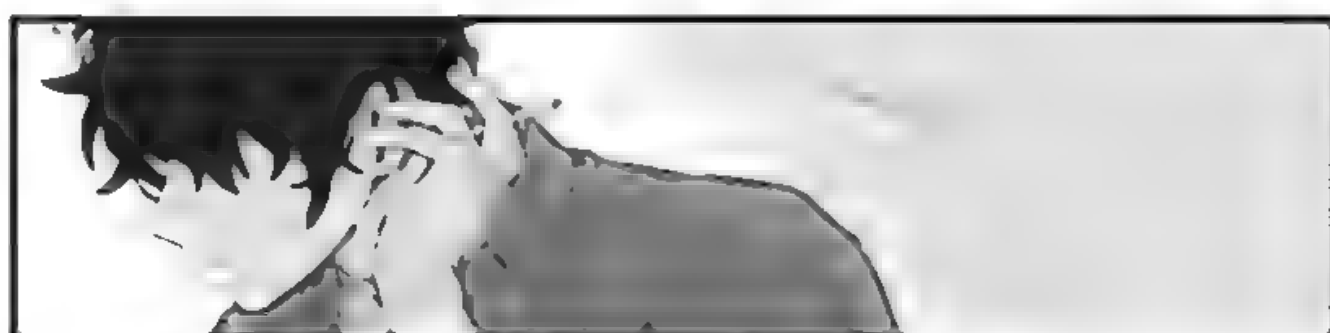
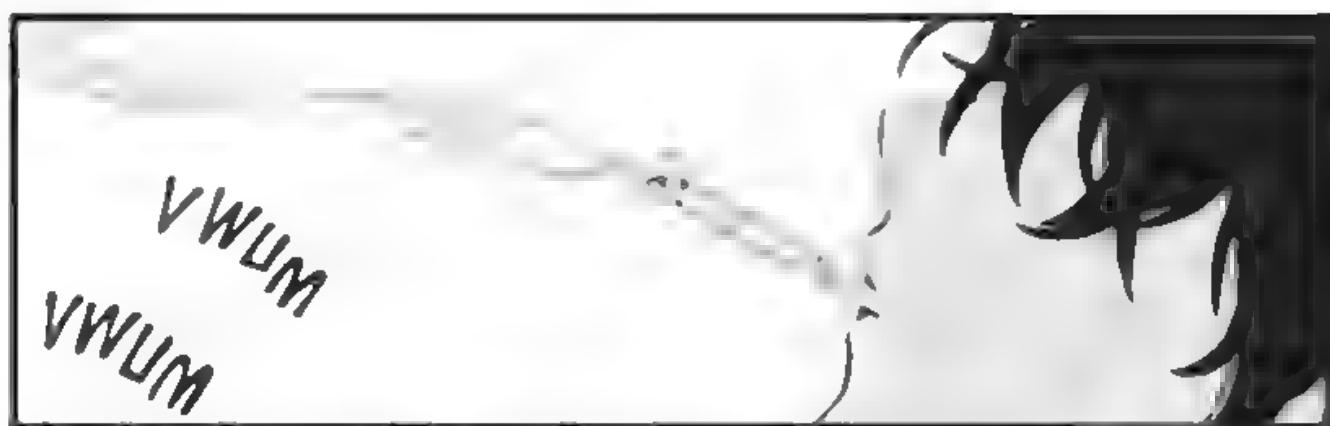
...BUT
IT IS
REBORN
IN ITS
SHELL...

*...AND
EVENTUALLY
GAINS
BEAUTIFUL
WINGS.*



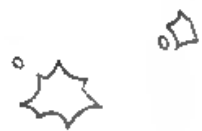








SUPPOSEDLY,
THOSE
WINGS...



...WITHIN
THAT
CATERPILLAR.

...ALREADY
EXIST...

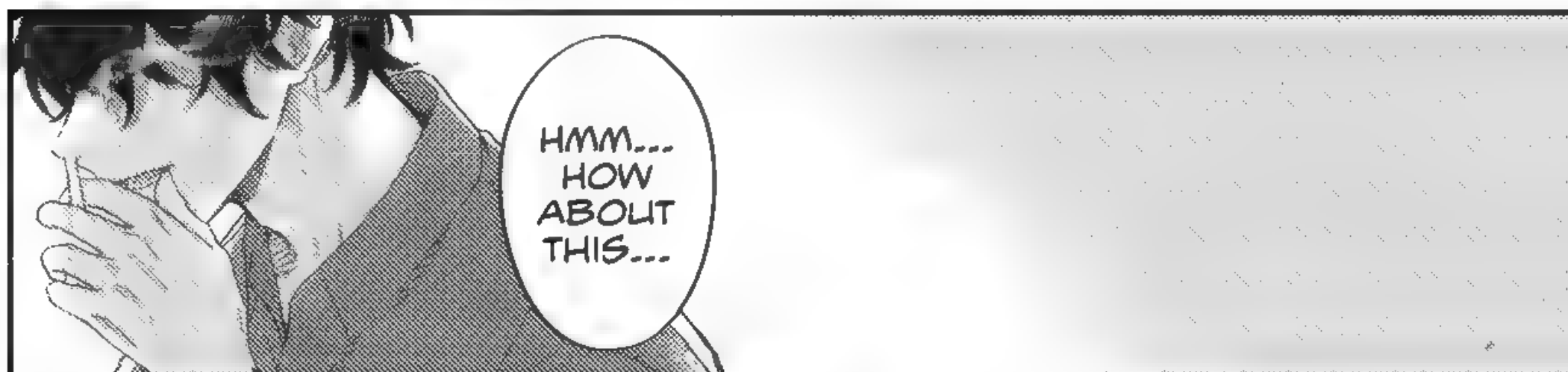


AKIHIKO
AND I...

sizz
sizz

...SMALL
WINGS
UNDER
OUR
SKIN.

...MUST
HAVE
ALWAYS
HAD...



HMM...
HOW
ABOUT
THIS...



...EVEN
BEFORE
OUR
CELLS
CAME
APART...

EVEN
BACK
THEN...

IN
THAT
BASE-
MENT...

...WHERE
WE
WERE
STUCK...

sho
of

...UNDER
THOSE
FINGERS
THIS
WHOLE
TIME,
THEY
WERE
ALWAYS
THERE...



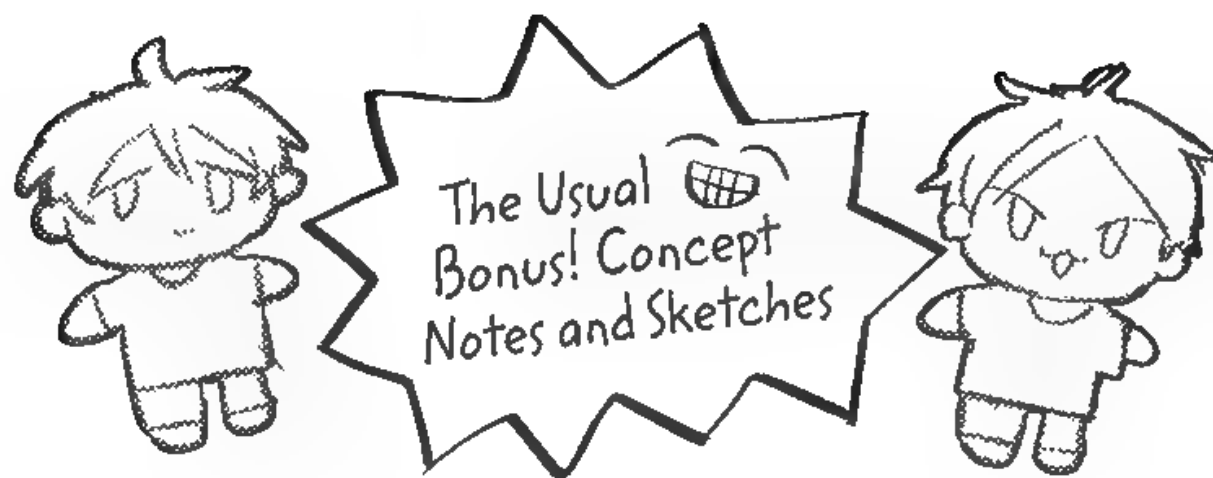


"I'M
DOING
ALL
RIGHT."

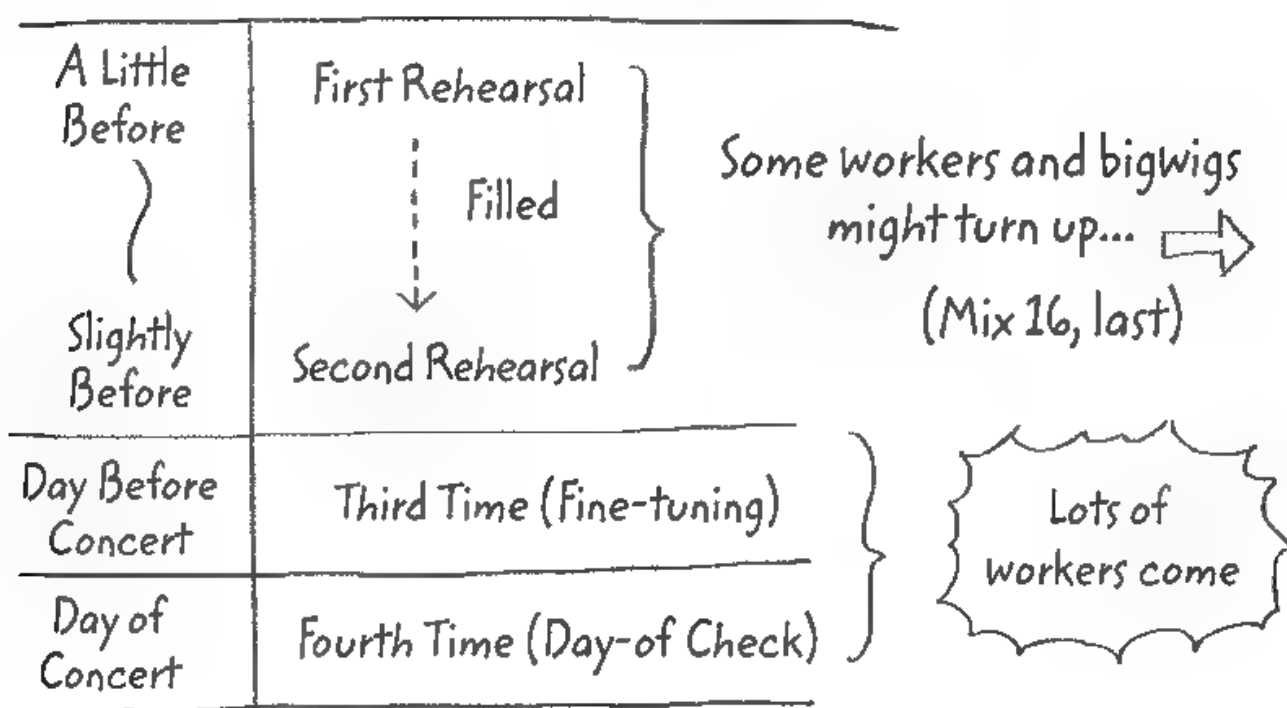




End

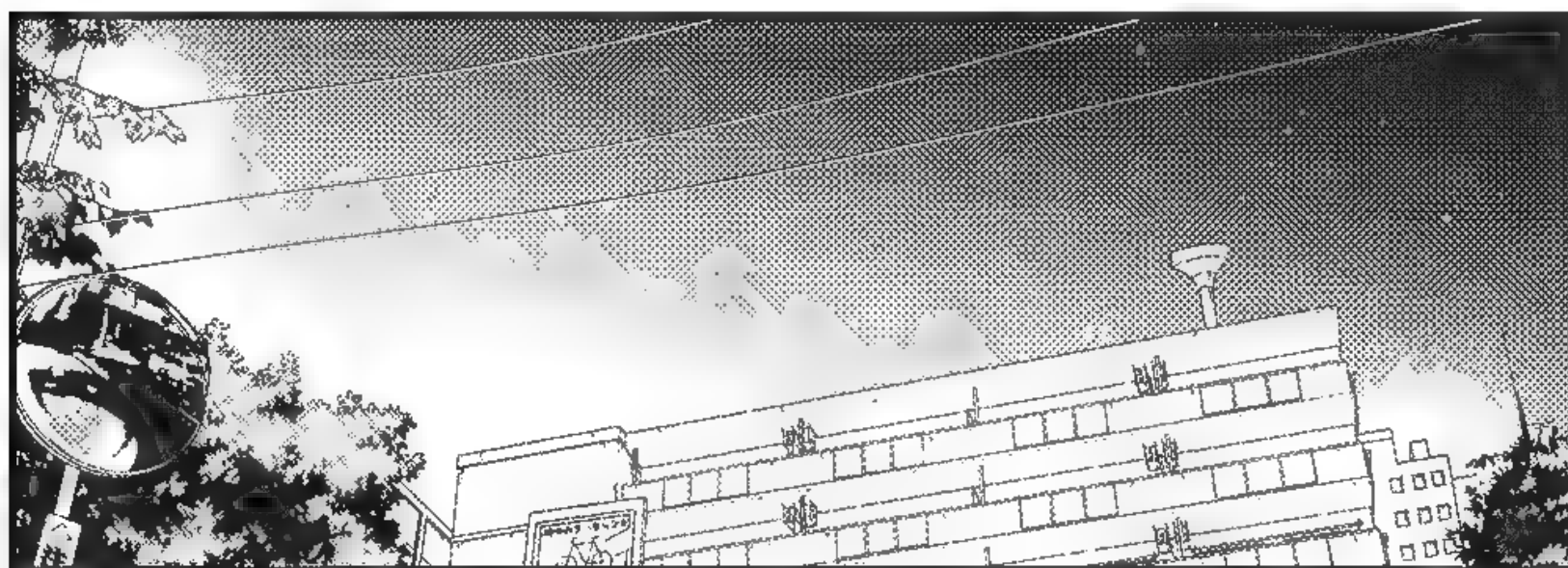


▼ Schedule Before the Concert (Research material) (Example)



▼ Shimomoriseseragi Park

From Hiragi Mix 13 / Machida Station's Southern Exit Kawazoe
It was because of this that Uenoyama could use his "going home on the last train" strategy.



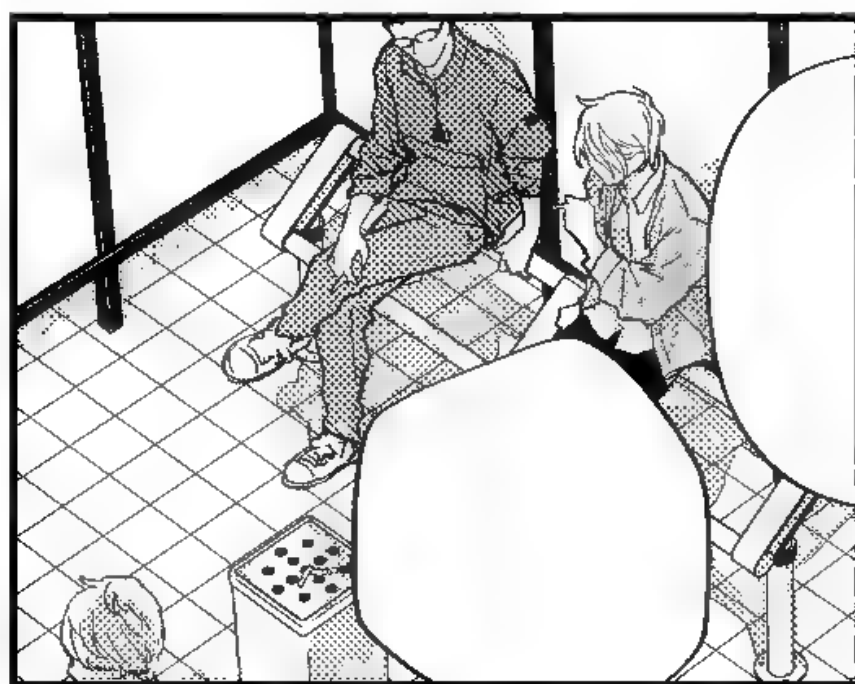


◀ Shibuya Scramble Crossing

From Hiragi Mix 16

The editorial department took lots of pictures for me.

But the smoking area in the same chapter ▶
pays homage to Shinjuku Station
(the details are different).



ERI HAYASHI, AYAKA, MATSUSHITA, MATSUMURA,
ATSUSHI (NO HONORIFIC), AND EVERYONE WHO
HELPED WITH RESEARCH, THANK YOU!

About the Author

Natsuki Kizu made her professional debut in 2013 with *Yukimura Sensei and Kei-kun*, followed by the short story collection *Links* and her breakout series, *Given*, which has been adapted into drama CDs and an animated TV series. To find out more about her works, you can follow her on Twitter at **@kizu_ntk**.

Given

Volume 8

SuBLime Manga Edition

Story and Art by **Natsuki Kizu**

Translation—**Jan Cash**

Touch-Up Art and Lettering—**Sabrina Heep**

Cover and Graphic Design—**Jimmy Presler**

Editor—**Jennifer LeBlanc**

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Originally published in Japan in 2022 by Shinshokan Co., Ltd.

Original design concept by arcoinc



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Printed in the U.S.A.

Published by SuBLime Manga
P.O. Box 77010
San Francisco, CA 94107

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1
First printing, October 2023



PARENTAL ADVISORY

GIVEN is rated T+ for Older Teen and is recommended for ages 16 and up. This volume contains suggestive themes.

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